

Steeplechasing ready to relaunch | Sagamore's next chapter | Meet Chris Bosley

Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Vol. 29, Issue 4
APRIL 2021



Vision Quest

Street Lute overcomes eye injury to find stakes success

More Stars for MOSLER

JOHNNY SACK in his last-to-first debut, a maiden allowance at Laurel Park, February 20.



Jim McCue (2)



Another Saturday afternoon horse: MOONSAFE wins big at Laurel on Feb. 27, galloping home with an easy 15¼-length maiden score for Country Life Farm and partners

"Mosler (War Front–Gold Vault, by Arch) has built quickly on his regional freshman title with Hello Hot Rod gamely holding out to complete a hat trick in the Jimmy Winkfield S. He's the second stakes winner to emerge from Mosler's debut crop, following Miss Nondescript in the Maryland Million Lassie S., likewise a dirt sprint.

"His stock can be expected to emulate his own versatility in terms of surface, once given the chance, and there's a broader sense that he is only just getting going: he's had 13 winners so far from just 28 starters among 71 named foals in his first crop.

"Grade II-placed Mosler offers a conduit to the genes and physique that qualified him as a \$1.05-million yearling. He's a half-brother to dual Grade I winner Contested (Ghostzapper) out of a half-sister to Pomeroy, winner of marquee Saratoga sprints in the Forego and King's Bishop.

"The big dynamo in his pedigree, however, is the replication of grandsire Danzig behind his damsire, Arch, who was out of Danzig's daughter Aurora."

Chris McGrath/©TDN 02/24/21



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In this issue

Street Lute keeps her eye on the prize

Despite a serious eye injury and delicate surgery before she ever raced, Maryland-bred champion Street Lute—now a stakes winner at 2 and 3—gets her career off to a quick start for trainer Jerry Robb and owner Lucky 7 Stables. By Joe Clancy. [Page 24](#)

Bosley stays on track at Laurel Park

He's already been called the "MVP" of the winter racing season at Maryland's Laurel Park, but track superintendent Chris Bosley just tries to stay focused on the job. In racing action, Hibiscus Punch delivers a knockout in the Barbara Fritchie and Share the Ride lands the General George. By Paul Halloran and Tom Law. [Page 28](#)

Foxhall Equine aims to find niche in horse health

Dr. Chris Smith takes his Maryland veterinary practice in a new direction with the launch of the Foxhall Equine therapy center in Fallston. By Brandon Weigel. [Page 42](#)

Steeplechase season begins



Rocked by the coronavirus pandemic and a huge reduction in the schedule in 2020, the National Steeplechase Association jumps into its new season with optimism, hope for a brighter future. After being canceled in 2020, the Maryland Hunt Cup draws 23 early nominations. By Sean and Joe Clancy. [Page 36](#)

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Cover: Star Maryland-bred 3-year-old filly Street Lute stares down the competition at Laurel Park. Photo by Jerry Dzierwinski.



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POST TIME

FAMILY GATHERING. Mother and daughter broodmares Thinkcandy (left) and Sugar Shack show off their fillies born a day apart at Country Life Farm in January.

Ellen B. Pons





Say it again

“He has no idea how lucky he is.”

Trainer Jerry Robb, about Street Lute's owner Joey Lloyd

“I get so ready for every race, that adrenaline gets going. Winning a horse race was better than striking out three guys in an inning.”

Lloyd, a former pitcher who was once offered a free-agent contract by the Florida Marlins organization

“People have pockets of mints for her all the time. I stick to carrots. I try to give her the healthy stuff.”

Lloyd, on his relationship with Street Lute

“Oh, you know . . . Having foals . . . not sleeping . . . The weather is good, but they never foal when the weather is good. They'll wait until it's 10 degrees again.”

Dr. Brooke Bowman, on life as a veterinarian and breeder during foaling season

“He is properly named. His thing in the hunt field when he first meets a horse is he just strikes out . . . he's still competitive. Turned out in the field he's at the top of the pecking order. He rules the roost.

But anybody can ride him. He's easy that way.”

Trainer Todd McKenna, about veteran timber horse and Maryland Hunt Cup nominee Mystic Strike



TODD MARKS

Clean Slate. The steeplechase game looks to wash away a 2020 season where more than half the race meets were canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Mystic Strike and jockey Tom Garner, who won the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup last fall, hope for clear sailing as the spring timber season begins.

NAMES OF THE MONTH

Absalom. Somebody paid attention in religion classes. The Kentucky-bred, a winner at Charles Town in February, is by Line of David. Absalom was the third son of David, the King of Israel.

Fifth of November. The 4-year-old, in action at Charles Town in March, is by Revolutionary and honors the Nov. 5, 1605 attempt to assassinate King James I of England and replace him with a Catholic head of state. Guy Fawkes was arrested while guarding explosives placed beneath the House of Lords.

Parched Ghost. The 6-year-old mare, bred in Pennsylvania by Peter Mattson, is by Stay Thirsty out of All Hallow's Eve.

GO FIGURE

0 Previous winners among the 21 horses nominated to the 2021 Maryland Hunt Cup. It will be the first year without a prior winner in the field since 2011.

11,038 People reached via Facebook by the Historical Society of Harford County, which posted an image of Havre de Grace Racetrack as part of the weekly Photo Friday feature in February. The photo was the account's most popular by more than 5,000. As executive director Maryanna Skowronski put it, “The Graw still prompts a lot of fond memories.”

.471 Batting average (eight winners from 17 runners) of Maryland stallion Mosler in 2021, through March 15. He, Maryland's Golden Lad (14-for-36) and Pennsylvania's Smarty Jones (9-for-24) led the way among active stallions (15+ runners) in the region.

LICENSE PLATE OF THE MONTH

I SHOE, Maryland. Got to be a blacksmith.

Mid-Atlantic-bred early Triple Crown nominees

Name, Owner, Breeder, Trainer

Hello Hot Rod, dk.b./br.c., Mosler—Hello Now (Md.), BTR Racing and Dark Horse Racing*, Hillwood Stables, Brittany Russell. *Sold to George Sharp at Fasig-Tipton January.

Pickin' Time, dk.b./br.c., Stay Thirsty—Born to Royalty (N.J.), Roseland Farm Stable (Bowers), John Bowers Jr, Kelly Breen.

Imperial Road, dk.b./br.c., Quality Road—Lady Pomeroy (Pa.), Whysper Wynd Farm, Whysper Wynd Farm, Juan Carlos Guerrero.

Too Boss, gr./ro.c., El Padrino—Bossy Posse (Pa.), Michael Cascio, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Joseph Cascio, Todd Pletcher.

Racarino, b.c., Mineshaft—Rare Penny (Va.), Calumet Farm, Lazy Lane Farms, Jack Sistierson.

Dis Ones On Fire, dk.b./br.g., Golden Years—Gotta Get It Girl (W.Va.), Locklear Racing Stables, James Locklear, James Locklear.

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First crop now 3YOs.

\$2,500 LFSN

Speightstown–Northern Station, by Street Cry (Ire)
Breeders' Cup & Maryland Million nominated
Property of Paul Hanifl



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ALSO STANDING: **OUTFLANKER**, broodmare sire of MG1 KNICKS GO

MILESTONES

Ranked: Third all-time by earnings among Mid-Atlantic-breds, Knicks Go, with a career total \$4,588,995 after finishing fourth (worth \$1.5 million) in the world's richest race, the \$20 million Saudi Cup-G1 at King Abdulaziz Racecourse Feb. 20. The 5-year-old Maryland-bred has won six of 19 starts. Only Maryland-bred Cigar (\$9,999,815) and Pennsylvania-bred Smarty Jones (\$7,613,155) have earned more.

Developed: A new test to detect gene doping in horses, the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. The test resulted from a study supported in part by the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association and the Pennsylvania State Horse Racing Commission and was called a "significant breakthrough in the collective fight to advance the welfare and integrity of sport for both horses and humans" in a press release from Penn Vet.

Unlike other small molecule pharmaceuticals, gene doping agents trigger cells to produce performance enhancing proteins. These proteins, often more elusive due to their virtually indistinguishable characteristics from naturally occurring proteins within the body, can make it more difficult to determine whether or not an animal or human has had gene therapy administered. Led by Dr. Mary Robinson, assistant professor of veterinary pharmacology at Penn Vet's New Bolton Center, the team of researchers created a quantitative real-time polymerase chain reaction test—commonly known as a PCR test—that can detect the presence of a gene doping agent in plasma and synovial fluid after its intra-articular administration in horses. "For the first time, we have demonstrated that a PCR test performed on a blood sample can detect the local administration of a gene therapy

into the joint of a horse," said Robinson. "While this test is currently limited in that it can only detect a specific gene therapy, it provides proof of concept that a gene therapy administered into the joint can be detected in a blood sample in a manner that is quick, convenient, and consistent with our long-term goal of deploying pre-race testing someday in the future." Not only were the Penn Vet researchers able to detect the presence of this product in equine joint fluid after gene therapy was administered intra-articularly, they were also able to detect it in blood for up to 28 days. This represents a significantly robust window of time that could be useful for pre-race as well as out of competition testing. "As breeders, protecting the health, safety, and well-being of our horses is a deeply profound and personal priority for our membership," said Brian Sanfratello, executive secretary of the

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MILESTONES

PHBA. "These scientific discoveries get us one step closer to our dream of someday keeping equine sport completely clean. We are proud to support Dr. Robinson and her team of experts as they continue to incrementally drive us closer and closer to making that dream a reality."

Awarded: To Baltimore-based firm Ayers Saint Gross, a \$995,735 contract for architectural/engineering services for the redevelopment of Maryland racetracks Pimlico Race Course and Laurel Park by the Maryland Stadium Authority. ASG will provide programming, due diligence and study design phase services. The contract may be amended to include project design, bidding and construction administration services. Ten teams responded to the request for proposal. A seven-member selection committee of representatives from MSA, Baltimore City, Anne Arundel County and The Stronach Group unanimously determined that ASG had the best technical proposal, interview and offered the lowest fee. Design is expected to take two years

at each facility. This action will not interfere with the 2021 Preakness to be run at Pimlico May 15. With the enactment of the Racing and Community Development Act of 2020 legislation, the MSA is authorized to finance up to \$375 million for the planning, design, and construction of the racing facilities.

Won: The 1,500th race of his training career, Charles Town-based David Walters, with Urkillingmebeth, at Charles Town Jan. 13. Walters began his career in 1978 and trained, among others, West Virginia-bred stakes winner Carnival Chrome—a 10-time winner who earned \$488,688. Walters topped 40 wins in a season 13 times, reaching a peak of 73 in 1998.

Correction

An article in the March edition profiling trainer Talie Lynch listed the name of Gold Square racing manager as Joe Hartoon. It is actually Joe Hardoon.

THE RACING BIZ

The Independent Voice for Mid-Atlantic Racing and Breeding

"Truth To Power" panelists—increasing diversity is key: In the first "Truth to Power" virtual panel, participants painted a picture of a Thoroughbred industry out of step with an increasingly diverse nation, Frank Vespe reports.

Guest opinion—Geisha Stakes ruling missed the mark: Former Maryland Racing Commission counsel Bruce Spizler says that a judge's recent ruling on the 2020 Geisha Stakes missed the mark.

Memorable Moments—Carry Back's farewell: Derby-Preakness winner Carry Back delivered one last big performance, at Garden State Park in Cherry Hill, N.J., to cap his Hall of Fame career. Linda Dougherty provides the history.

Hot jocks and trainers: The Racing Biz has created a metric to look at the hottest jockeys and trainers at tracks around the region.

Backtracks—Elkridge, that charmer: The charming Elkridge was a steeplechase great whose talent was coupled with a sunny disposition and love for donuts. Jennifer Kelly tells his story.

LOCALA LOVES GORMLEY.

TDN's 'Consignors Talk Freshman Sires' on Feb. 23:

EDDIE WOODS

"The Gormleys are very nice," Woods said when asked which freshman sires had impressed him. "They are quick, agile horses. They look like they will be pretty precocious and early."

SUSAN MONTANYE

"I have one mare, and I'm going to breed her to Gormley, because of what I've seen and you can get to him fairly inexpensively," Montanye said. "I have two of them—one I am taking to Miami and the other one I'm taking to April or Maryland, they just wanted a little more time with him. But they are both very, very nice. I think there is a lot of Malibu Moon in them. Both are pretty good-minded colts. Neither one of them are going to be my bullet, my fastest that I have in my barn, but I think both of them are more than just sprinters. They are both fast, don't get me wrong, but I think they are horses that can stretch out."



SPENDTHRIFT



Capital campaign launched to create Maryland Horse Library and Education Center

By Sara Gordon



The Reisterstown building acquired by the MHBA in 2020 will be home to the Maryland Horse Library and Education Center. Above is a rendering of the main library room, which will be in the front of the building.

A \$1 million capital campaign is officially underway for the Maryland Horse Foundation's Maryland Horse Library and Education Center, in the heart of historic Reisterstown within the Maryland Horse Breeders Association's building at 321 Main Street.

A culmination of ideas passed down from the MHBA's forefathers and board members who came after, the innovative facility will be a collaborative effort celebrating all aspects of Maryland's horse industry and its rich history. Along with housing and displaying the MHBA's historic reference library, the Maryland Horse Library and Education Center will provide opportunities and space for members of the industry to connect with, educate and inspire the public.

"It's long overdue that there's an appropriate place for people to look back on

the past, so that we can look forward to the future," said Josh Pons, co-chair of the capital campaign and president of the MHF. "It'll be a real horse-community effort to pull this off, something that everybody can be proud of, and nobody should be taking credit for it. It's a long overdue idea that those ahead of us were just never in a position to implement or execute."

After nearly 90 years of moving locations around Baltimore County, the MHBA ended its search for a permanent home at the historic building in Reisterstown last June. Built in 1866, the 7,000 square foot brick building adorned with stately white columns has been a church, bank, antique shop, real estate office, and now houses the offices for the MHBA, Maryland Million Ltd., *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* magazine and the MHF.

Outside of the expansive collection of books and reference materials, the horse-centric venue will include a memorabilia area, meeting space, interactive kiosks and rotating exhibits. A media room with updated technology will allow visitors to contribute to Maryland's rich history of horses by recording oral stories, scanning photographs and digitizing footage.

"It's an incredible resource that no other state really has. They have museums, but they're all focused on racing, or they have museums that focus on steeplechasing, but this one focuses on all aspects of the horse industry, which the whole state of Maryland is going to benefit from," said Richard Blue Jr., co-chair of the capital campaign and vice president of the MHBA.

The library and education center's interactive space and historic resources go



Plans for the project include extensive displays of books and other reference material, plus a media room to allow for audio and video recording.

BLOFELD



BLOFELD **PRECOCIOUS AT 2**

**We expect
the same from
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MID-ATLANTIC REPORT



Flexible meeting and event spaces and display areas for memorabilia will also be part of the project.

hand-in-hand with the MHF's educational programs, which engage a wide audience of equine-inclined youth and young adults in an effort to recruit and encourage the next generation to carry on the legacy of Maryland's horse industry. But most importantly, the new facility stands as a physical resource, for anyone interested in learning more about horses in Maryland, to visit and explore.

"Even going back to Humphrey Finney and the MHBA in the 1940s, 1930s, he ran the association then and his interests covered every aspect of horse activity. He was a judge, he went to horse shows, that's why the *Maryland Horse*, the original magazine, covered everything, so now we're full circle coming back to that," said Cricket Goodall, executive director of the MHBA. "We're including all aspects of the industry—horse sports, horse activities—in what we do here and offering that to people who want to come learn about it."

The MHBA has always had a library, mainly comprised of staff and board members' personal collections, but it wasn't until the association chartered the Maryland Horse Industry Foundation, now the MHF, in 1988 that supporting the library by collecting donations of racing literature and memorabilia became a true focus. The MHF's mission shifted once again, when the foundation's Maryland Thoroughbred Career Program launched in 2017, followed by a variety of other educational equine programs.

The Maryland Horse Library and Education Center will bring it all together for the MHF and finally allow the MHBA's reference library, stored away for years, to be displayed and shared, as it was always intended to be.

Highlights of the reference library include the complete collections of the Bowie Library's Selima Room, The Jockey Club's *Racing In America* and the annual *American Race Horses* series published by Sagamore Press; *Blood-Horse* magazines

dating to the early 1930s; *Maryland Horse* magazines dating to the first issue in 1936; The *American Racing Manual* dating to the mid-1920s; signed first editions of Dick Francis' mystery novels; Maryland Hunt Cup history books; a collection donated by Alfred G. Vanderbilt's family, including his personal journals and books; *Daily Racing Form* chart books dating to the early 1920s; and complete sets of *American Stud Book* and *General Stud Book*.

"It's a big project, but it's coming alive which is great and it's got a lot of enthusiasm, which is really great, and it will grow. It's infectious and the key to it is seeing it," said Goodall. "The problem over the years may have been that people couldn't see it, it wasn't concrete enough for them to get their heads around. But we're lucky, this is a really good outcome."

"Going back to the focus of the Foundation, it's education and getting more people interested in loving the horse industry. You need to have that opportu-

nity. The further and further away people get from horses, the more you need to reinforce, so you have to help them find ways to be associated with horses and that's what I hope we do. We've proven there are ways to keep people in this business and keep people employed and doing what they love, and that's a big deal too, that's the foundation."

The goal of the capital campaign is to raise \$1 million to update 3,500 square feet in the building, purchase furnishings, integrate current audio/visual technologies and support ongoing operational costs. Depending on the progress of the campaign, the committee hopes to start renovating the building by summer.

As of March 12, support had been robust as \$100,000 had already been committed. ★

Visit MarylandHorse.com/library to learn about the various ways you can support the Maryland Horse Library and Education Center Capital Campaign.

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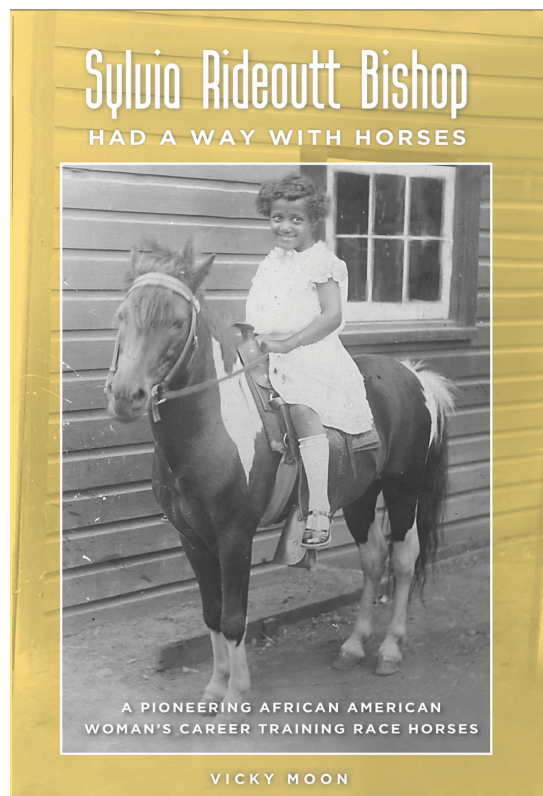
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New book chronicles Charles Town trainer Bishop

An excerpt from “*Sylvia Rideoutt Bishop Had a Way With Horses*,” written by Vicky Moon. Bishop was the first African American female trainer of racehorses in America working for nearly 60 years at Charles Town in West Virginia.



The year is 2004, and Sylvia Rideoutt Bishop sits in a dark Naugahyde vinyl lounge chair in the corner of apartment 5-P of The Charles Towers, just three-tenths of a mile from 122 South West Street in Charles Town, West Virginia, where she lived for most of her 84 years. A game show blares out from a large television set on the other side of the room. It is early fall and the weather is still summertime warm.

Pine-scented disinfectant wafts through the living area from the hallway along with a hint of boiled cabbage from the kitchen. The window next to the lounge chair faces east, overlooking the back parking lot and is wide open, creating a glare on the TV screen.

The five-story, sandy-colored cinder block building on Augustine Avenue is named after the son of George

Washington's brother, Charles, and his wife, Mildred. Their son was George Augustine Washington. The building is wedged between a Citgo station and Bobby's Used Car lot. It provides low-income housing for senior citizens. A Save-A-Lot grocery store is across the street.

There's a tap, tap, tap, as the brass knocker hits the steel door.

"Door's open," Sylvia warbles sweetly. "Come on in."

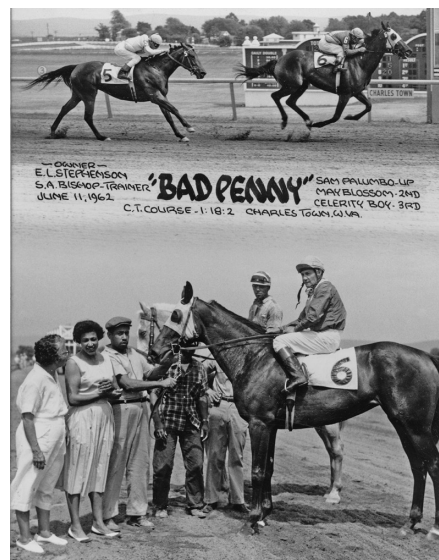
She can't locate the remote control to mute the sound and is frantic to find her black plastic cigarette lighter. She's not quite sure which she wants to locate first.

On this warm, humid day, a copy of the Daily Racing Form is laid open on the dining room table. On the wall above the couch there are dozens of photos from the racetrack, all with Sylvia in the winner's circle. In the framed

pictures, joyous horse owners, jockeys, family members and smiling friends surround her. As she looks at each photo of the many horses she trained—Classical Herb, Forever Noble, Key Punch, Prince Devil and many others—she reminisces in detail to her visitor.

"This one liked to come from behind," she begins. "This one had to be led to the paddock by two people, and this little filly had a heart of gold." There was plenty of heartbreak too as she continues. "Lost by a nose, she broke her ankle coming out of the gate and had to be put down, the owners decided to move with another trainer."

Her training career was laced with a strangling concoction of sexual discrimination and racial bigotry long before the words sexual harassment, "Me Too" or "Black Lives Matter" became common 21st century language. And it all took place



In the winner's circle at Charles Town in 1962.

in what appeared to be a mannerly southern town.

A trim woman with her partially gray hair pulled back in a neat knot, Sylvia's hazel eyes sparkle. Her jaw is lean and angular. Her skin is milky caramel and many have remarked on her near whiteness. They even go so far as to attribute this to her success with influential white owners.

A flowing, pinkish duster and blue bedroom slippers make up her wardrobe of choice this day. She finds the lighter, fires up one of many Winston cigarettes and drums her fingers as she pulls up the past.

She loves to pour through old scrapbooks and photos, reliving days of glorious triumph. She still understands which horses favor oats and which prefer mash. (She even swears a few of them improve form after swallowing a bottle of beer, but that's a story for later.) She mastered the training strategy: breeze, gallop, sprint or 7 furlongs. When one of her charges hung his head, she was able to pinpoint his aches. She nursed them with potent potions and homemade fixes.

Up before the sun for 60 years, Sylvia trained hundreds of horses and won thousands in purse money. She broke countless racial barriers and shattered sexual/female stereotypes. She also confesses to spoiling all of her charges with plenty of peppermint candy.

Quite simply . . . Sylvia Bishop had a way with horses. ★

Remembered with a memorial stakes race at Charles Town, Sylvia Bishop died in 2004 after a pioneering career in racing. The book is available at amazon.com or vickymoon.com.



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MID-ATLANTIC REPORT

A Maryland-bred Hero—25th Anniversary

Cigar World Domination

Dubai World Cup

March 27, 1996 - Nad Al Sheba

International racing was not new—John Schapiro's creation of the Washington, D.C. International at Laurel in the early 1950s was an instant success—but shipping to the desert in the mid-1990s was novel, and exotic. Cigar headlined the first running of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum's dream race—the richest in the world at \$4 million—the Dubai World Cup.

Jerry Bailey, aboard the champion for 12 consecutive races, and wins, had ridden in other countries, but Dubai was a new adventure.

"We honestly didn't know what to expect," he recalled in a recent interview. "It wasn't like going to the moon but in some aspects it kind of was. We had no idea." Bailey and the others came



away impressed. Treated like royalty, they were introduced to the local culture, entertained, wine and dined, plus found it quite westernized. "There was an excursion for us—we rode camels, hawks were flying around. They had everything for us to experience the culture in Dubai. It was surreal."

Non-stop flights from the U.S. to Dubai did not exist, so the trip took about 24 hours when leaving from Florida, by way of London.

As for Cigar, Bailey never saw him get upset or excited about anything, including a race under lights.

"At Dubai he didn't seem to mind anything. The starting gate was a little different. It was the little, tiniest things that you take for granted here that weren't exactly the same over there. I worried about a lot of things that never came to be."

The sandy track was deep early on the card, but tightened up by post time.

Trainer Bill Mott had worked diligently with Cigar over the winter, as Allen Paulson's homebred battled a minor foot issue. "He wasn't 100 percent," remembered Bailey. "Even though he worked well, he wasn't actually a 100 percent."

During the 1¼-mile instant classic, Bailey noted Cigar wasn't getting great traction, but good enough. "I was extremely wide most of the trip and I knew I couldn't avoid that from the [8] post that we drew. My biggest concern was the long stretch—not asking Cigar too much too early for his best."

But Bailey never had a doubt in the horse he calls the best he'd ridden. "Watching the rerun [you'd think] I was going to get beat in the middle of the stretch when Soul of the Matter rolled up to him. I made it a

point to save a lot of energy in him until the last quarter of a mile and that's where Soul of the Matter rolled up to him. So even though visually it looks like Soul of the Matter was going to run by, I could feel Cigar's momentum starting to roll."

Cigar held off Burt Bacharach's West Virginia-bred Soul of the Matter by a half-length.

"It was the closest I ever felt like being an Olympian," said the rider. "I was representing the U.S., [Paulson's] colors were red, white and blue, with stars—there were horses from all over the world. So for me personally it was as close to being an Olympian as I thought I'd ever come."

Bailey has momentos from the first Dubai World Cup—the golden whip presented to the winning jockey (he would add three others to his collection), as well as the goggles and silks he wore that night.

The win was Cigar's 14th in a row—he was odds-on favorite in 11 of those. "There is always pressure when you ride the favorite," said Bailey. "There was no horse I would rather be on as favorite than Cigar because he had no weaknesses. Pretty much I couldn't get in trouble with him. He had a tremendous amount of speed I could use any time I wanted. He broke great from the gate so he never got in trouble early in the race."

"There was some pressure, but there was no other horse I'd rather be on with the pressure than Cigar. He was just so good."

Cigar was not only the best horse Bailey ever rode, but also his favorite. "Not because he was the best," the Hall of Fame rider noted. "He was just a cool horse to be around."

—Cindy Deubler

STAKES WINNERS

Complete statistics on 2021 Mid-Atlantic-bred stakes winners available at MidAtlanticTB.com, including interactive pedigrees, race records, produce records of dam, and more.

Maryland-bred

STREET LUTE, ch.f., 2018, Street Magician—Alottalute, by Midnight Lute. Bred by Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Bowman & Dr. Brooke Bowman; owned by Lucky 7 Stables; trained by John Robb. \$100,000 **Xtra Heat**, 6 fur., 3YO fillies, Laurel, Jan. 16; \$100,000 **Wide Country**, 7 fur., 3YO fillies, Laurel, Feb. 20.

Pennsylvania-bred

MAYTHEHORSEBWITHU, b.g., 2018, Bullsbay—Avani Force, by Forestry. Bred by Beatrice Patterson & Vicky Schowe; owned by Michael Dubb & Bethlehem Stables; trained by Brittany Russell. \$100,000 **Miracle Wood**, 1 mi., 3YO, Laurel, Feb. 20; 2nd **Spectacular Bid**.

THE CRITICAL WAY, dk.b./br.g., 2014, Tizway—Critical Factor, by Star de Naskra. Bred by Blackstone Farm; owned by Monster Racing Stables; trained by Jose Delgado. \$75,000 **Turf Dash**, 5 fur., turf, 4&up, Tampa Bay, Feb. 24; 3rd **Janus**.

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Prideland



LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

Betty McCue was window shopping. Picking up a retired Thoroughbred from the Laurel Park barn of her friend Hugh McMahon, McCue customarily glanced in the stalls to see what else might be waiting in the wings. McMahon was assistant at that time to leading Mid-Atlantic trainer Scott Lake. McCue, owner and operator—with her sister, Evelyn Hughes Martin—of White Hall, Md.-based EHM Stables, was always on the lookout for suitable candidates as lesson and show prospects for her students.

McCue stopped at a dark bay head hanging over a stall door.

After closer inspection, she told McMahon to keep her in mind when he was ready to find a new home for the horse.

McMahon didn't hesitate.

"Hang on a minute," he told McCue, and ducked into his office to call the horse's owner Robert Cole. A few minutes later, McMahon was back with good news. "OK, you can take him too," he said.

The horse was Prideland, and McCue was instantly smitten.

"It was like picking out my heartthrob, right there," she said. "He has sort of an old-fashioned look about him. When I saw him, I said 'Ohmygosh, I love this horse.'"

His looks and build evoke a different era. Envision the black and white photos of Citation, Count Fleet, Stymie. The masculine head with its ever-so-slightly Roman nose. Strong shoulder, good bone, powerful hindquarters—a study in rugged elegance. He's the kind of Thoroughbred McCue grew up riding, foxhunting and showing in Virginia.

Bred in Maryland by David and JoAnn Hayden's Dark Hollow Farm, the son of Lion Hearted was produced from Tequila Sheila, one of the Haydens' favorite mares. He was foaled at their Upperco, Md., farm Feb. 15, 2002.

"Tequila Sheila was by Hagley, and we loved a Hagley mare," JoAnn Hayden said. "Prideland was a lovely looking colt, and the thing that I distinctly remember was that he had the same disposition as his mother. He was what I call today the invisible yearling. The ones that you never have to do anything out of the ordinary; they do whatever you ask of them, they never cause any hoopla. So agreeable."

Dark Hollow offered him at the 2003 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale at Timonium where he was purchased for \$40,000 by Sovereign Stables and Gatsas Thoroughbreds.

Sent to New York trainer John Terranova, Prideland won at Saratoga and Aqueduct. He was claimed by Altreo Persaud for owner Anthony Calabrese April 28, 2007. Less than three months later, Lake dropped a slip for Cole at Saratoga, and Prideland soon ended up at Lake's Maryland base. He won his final start, at Charles Town, Dec. 8, 2007. He left Laurel Park for his new life with McCue after 24 starts, six wins and \$159,037 earned.

McCue planned to keep the gelding for herself, but ultimately had to share with her daughter Mary Elizabeth and student Anastasia Vialov.

"I just loved him so much. Then Mary Elizabeth decided he was going to be hers, so she took him over and started showing him. She went to college and that was when Anastasia took him over, and he was her horse, believe me. She lived and breathed that horse."

Vialov began riding with McCue while still in middle school. Her reaction to Prideland replicated McCue's; girl and horse bonded quickly and deeply. Vialov hopped on tackless and rode him through the fields, she celebrated his birthday, planning parties and baking cakes every year.

"They were inseparable," McCue said.

Competitively, they were formidable. The pair foxhunted, evented and regularly hauled home ribbons and trophies from horse shows until Vialov left for the University of Kentucky. Now in veterinary school in London, she credits the gelding with her career decisions.

"I would work at EHM Stables in exchange for riding lessons," Vialov said. "Betty had a variety of horses and ponies to choose from, but I particularly fell in love with Prideland. He really opened up the world of horses for me. I did everything on him—competed in hunters, jumpers, paper chases, foxhunted, competed in junior field master chases and even rode him around Pimlico for Canter for the Cure. We developed a really close bond. He was the most versatile horse and had the true heart of the Thoroughbred, always wanting to please and trying his hardest. He was the horse that sparked my love of Thoroughbreds and pushed me to want to become a veterinarian."

Vialov and Prideland also pushed JoAnn Hayden back into the saddle.

"I was so happy that Betty got him. I went to the shows and adored watching Anastasia ride him," Hayden said. "And actually she convinced me to ride him in the adult leadline class at the Totally Thoroughbred horse show at Pimlico. Anastasia led me around. It was crazy; there might have been 12 people in there. We were all fossils . . . I think I was one of the youngest. I hadn't ridden in so long at that time. They ended up asking our ages, and the oldest person won the class."

Former HRTV racing analyst and on-air host Carolyn Conley was another big fan. She rode Prideland in the show at Pimlico in 2012, and they were prominently featured in the channel's documentary about the competition.

For all his versatility and good nature, Prideland has one issue. Mane pulling, and it goes way back to the beginning.

While prepping Dark Hollow's entrants for the 2003 Maryland Horse Breeders Association yearling show, Hayden instructed her grooms to leave the colt for last when pulling his mane, as he'd need some tranquilizer. Before leaving the barn for the night, she posted a two-word note on his stall door—DO MANE.

The next morning, she asked her staff how things had gone with clipping and grooming. One particular former employee spoke right up.

"Oh, they were all fine except for that Do Mane—he was TERRIBLE!!"

"He thought that note I'd stuck on the door was the colt's name," Hayden said with a laugh. "He pronounced it like it was all one word: Dumane. And he called him that until the day we sold him. He'd say, 'That Dumane is the nicest horse. Walks right up the ramp onto the van. Never any trouble.'"

Now 19, Dumane or Prideland is still the nicest horse. He'll compete this year with another of McCue's students, Gretchen Eisenberg. Like Vialov, Eisenberg has clicked with the old boy and considers him "her" horse. McCue attributes Prideland's continued thriving health and happiness to the close bonds forged with devoted riders.

"He has been the most wonderful horse ever, ever, ever," she said. "He's just been so versatile. He doesn't look like he's aging at all, and he's just ready to go again." ★



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TOD MARKS

Can racing answer the questions?

A photo of a leading Irish trainer sitting on a dead horse, while smiling and offering a peace sign, wound up on the internet. The country's leading apprentice jockey of 2020 got suspended and fined for riding at a lower weight than published in the program. Racing's Hall of Fame released a list of finalists that included a trainer with 45 violations on the thoroughbredrulings.com website managed by The Jockey Club. A standout filly won a 2020 Eclipse Award after failing two drug tests.

How's your year going?

Those four sentences—there could be more—ought to tell you a little about where Thoroughbred racing stands in 2021. At some kind of crossroads, again or still depending on how you look at it.

At its core, racing exists because of a public trust. Those outside the industry need to trust that the people inside the industry are doing the right things. The questions are pretty simple.

Are the horses respected and well cared for? Gordon Elliott's treatment of a horse in his stable would make you say no. Elliott is a top National Hunt (jump racing) trainer in Ireland. He's won major races in his home country and England for years, trained the likes of two-time English Grand National winner Tiger Roll (Ire). In 2019, Elliott trainee Morgan (Ire) collapsed and died on a gallop. Somehow, Elliott sat astride the

horse's body—a leg on each side—while talking on the phone and offering a peace sign to someone who snapped a photo. The image became public in February. At first, Elliott offered a statement of apology that didn't win over many. Then he spoke of an “indefensible moment of madness” with the *Racing Post* newspaper. Then he got fined 15,000 euros and suspended for a year (with six months suspended) by the Irish racing authorities. England honored the ban. Some sponsors and owners left. Others stayed, and the stable was transferred to the oversight of another trainer.

Elliott himself called his actions indefensible. He meant, I think, for himself. But racing can't defend them either. And that's the real damage. Racing has to defend Gordon Elliott's actions. A racehorse trainer sat on a dead racehorse? For a laugh? For comfort? And he only got suspended six months? Try defending the sport to someone who wants an answer. And before you pass this off as Ireland's problem, Elliott rode in the Maryland Hunt Cup in 2004 and 2005, saddled a runner at Saratoga in 2008, ran a horse in the Breeders' Cup at Del Mar in 2017, won the American Grand National at New Jersey's Far Hills Races in 2018, won two races on the U.S. jump circuit in 2019. The Elliott photo and its fallout are racing's problem.

Is the wagering product on the level? Alexander Crispin won the Eclipse Award as racing's top apprentice jockey of 2020. We featured him in the March edition, a young talent on his way up. And then the world found out that Crispin got caught riding underweight at Laurel Park in January. Stewards obtained video evidence of Crispin crossing the scale at 115 pounds before a race and at 110 pounds after, suspended the jockey 30 days and fined him \$1,000.

Crispin paid the price, but who knows how long gamblers paid it? Did you bet on a race in which he rode? You weren't doing so with all the information. You want to try explaining that to the public? People can bet on almost anything these days, and those people want to know they've got a fair (or as fair as can be) chance. One rider cheating the system doesn't sound like much, but it matters because it erodes confidence in the product.

Are rule-breakers pursued by authorities, penalized and marginalized? Not if you're reading the ballot from the National Museum of

Racing and Hall of Fame. This year's group of potential inductees includes Doug O'Neill, a winner of more than 2,500 races including the Kentucky Derby-G1 (twice), the Preakness Stakes-G1 and five Breeders' Cup races. According to that Jockey Club website, his horses have also tested positive for dantrolene, dexamethasone, flunixin, phenylbutazone, etodolac and above the limits for carbon dioxide and testosterone. The lists include fines of \$15,000 in 2012, \$10,000 in 2013 and \$3,000 in 2006. In March, four days after the date on the letter to Hall of Fame voters, O'Neill was suspended 10 days and fined \$7,500 for a lidocaine violation at Santa Anita last fall.

Gamine was voted champion female sprinter of 2020, based on three Grade 1 wins. But, she was disqualified from an allowance score at Oaklawn Park in May after testing positive for lidocaine and from a third in September's Kentucky Oaks-G1 after testing positive for betamethasone. Her trainer Bob Baffert attributed the first violation to a pain-relief patch worn by his assistant trainer and blamed the second on threshold guidelines (Gamine received betamethasone 18 days before the Oaks, four days outside the recommended withdrawal time).

Horses are athletes and get treated for ailments and conditions. They race at tracks all over the country. Contamination, sensitive testing, different rules all play a part. Train horses long enough and you'll violate a rule. I get it. But here we are, doing the industry a disservice.

You want to explain this to the public? You want to stand up for slots subsidies and friendly tax laws? You want to talk to legislators about job creation, open space and agriculture? You want to put public trust on trial? Again? Or still?

O'Neill might make the Hall of Fame. Crispin may have a long, successful riding career. Elliott could come back and be a force in international jump racing again. Baffert and his horses will surely continue to shine.

They might never break another rule, or otherwise put racing on the defensive. Every rule-breaker or bad actor in the game might get caught and penalized.

But will racing's public trust survive their actions? That's the most important question, and I can't answer it.



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One Way

*Maryland-bred filly Street Lute
zooms to quick start to career*

By Joe Clancy. Photographs by Jerry Dzierwinski



Where do you want to start with Street Lute? Winning seven of her first eight starts? Her eye injury? Her owner, a guy who probably doesn't quite understand how lucky he is? Her unraced dam's path from the auction ring to riding horse to a date with a champion?

No path would be wrong, but consider her debut at Delaware Park last September a logical starting point.

Trainer Jerry Robb had her ready to run months earlier, but lost time to two surgeries on the filly's right eye, weeks of stall rest, treatment and worry and just had to get going if he was going to salvage any kind of juvenile campaign with the Maryland-bred. Robb figured the race would be a workout and a dose of experience.

"We were planning to work her Saturday and Jerry called me and told me not to come because he found a race for her on Monday," said owner Jerry Lloyd, who bought his first racehorses in 2017. "He said she wasn't really ready, that it was going to be a workout."

Street Lute won the 5-furlong maiden race by a length, paid \$21.20. Jockey Brian Pedroza came back and told the connections, "You've got a good one." She won the Small Wonder Stakes 19 days later, finished second in the Maryland Million Lassie, and closed 2020 with three more stakes wins—Laurel Park's Smart Halo, Maryland Juvenile Filly Championship and Gin Talking. Voted champion Maryland-bred 2-year-old filly, the daughter of Street Magician and the Midnight Lute mare Alottalute opened her sophomore campaign with more of the same—winning the 6-furlong Xtra Heat Jan. 16 and the 7-furlong Wide Country Feb. 20 to push her bankroll to \$410,220 with seven wins in eight starts.

A neck separated her from perfection through eight starts.

"I sure didn't expect her to turn out what she turned out to be, but that's what this game's about," said Robb, who plucked Street Lute out of Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's yearling sale for \$10,500 in 2019. The trainer called the Wide Country his favorite win in the filly's short career, so far, and for good reason. Street Lute and jockey Xavier Perez rated just off fractions set by Little Huntress and Whiskey and Rye, advanced with a four-wide bid after a half-mile in :44.91, built a 2-length lead in mid-stretch and saw out a 1-length win over Fraudulent Charge with Salt Plage third. The winner

covered 7 furlongs in 1:23.59. Longer races beckon, at some point.

"I guess I'm going to have to try stretching her out," Robb said. "Someone kept saying last week, 'Why don't you run her long?' Well, until I run out of spots where I'm even money [going short], when I run out of those kinds of spots, then I'll think about it. She rates kind, but I don't see where she's not going to be on the front end going longer. She does better running at horses so I would rather there be some speed in there and she gets that sprinting. The mile races at Laurel are out of the same chute she's been winning from, so that's probably next. You can't be anything but happy with her so far."

Three weeks after the Wide Country, Street Lute gave the mile a go in Laurel's Beyond The Wire, and finished third.

As straightforward as Street Lute's racing career has been, it wasn't always this

way. Her Kentucky-bred dam, Alottalute, never raced and sold four times at auction—twice as a yearling, once as a 2-year-old and finally as a 3-year-old broodmare prospect at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic in December 2014. Tate Shaw signed the ticket for \$8,000, hoping to salvage something.

"She was a beautiful filly, and she had enough pedigree to think she might be something," Shaw said. "Before I got her they'd had trouble with her tendons filling up when they'd work her, and I started legging her up a little bit at the farm and the same thing happened."

Alottalute went for hacks, learned to jump and earned her keep for the Maryland-based Shaw, who rode a handful of steeplechase races and now runs an eventing/show facility in Aiken, S.C. Shaw eventually sold Alottalute to Heritage Stallions and she was bred to Bourbon Courage in 2016. When Heritage ceased operations in 2017, partners Dr. Tom Bowman, Dr. Brooke Bowman and Louis Merryman divided up a few farm-owned mares and Alottalute went to Brooke Bowman.

"Louis picked one, my dad picked one and I picked one," said Brooke of an inexact process. "I picked her."

The Bourbon Courage filly of 2017 has yet to race, same with a 2019 colt by Editorial. In between came Street



Trainer Jerry Robb spends some quality time with his newest stable star.

Lute—co-bred by Brooke and his parents Tom and Chris and sold at auction by consignor Becky (Bowman) Davis. The yearling price was encouraging, the rest is hard to believe.

“After they have a good foal, people always say they liked the mare all along,” said Brooke. “She is gorgeous, she has a nice family, she’s by Midnight Lute, but before Street Lute you wouldn’t have said we thought she was worth a lot of money.”

The Bowmans sold a now yearling full-sister to Street Lute (before she ran) to

Robb’s wife
Gina

Hey, Jerry Robb, is Street Lute anything like star stablemate Anna’s Bandit?

“Not at all. Anna is 100-percent professional in every way. She’s like a cow in the barn, walks to the track like a cow, stands at the gap for 20 minutes and then puts everything into training. When this filly walks around the barn, she kicks at anything that moves. When you walk her, you better be paying attention.”

out of the field last year, and Alottalute was not bred in 2020. Blame the pandemic, timing, luck, whatever.

“Street Lute hadn’t happened yet and with Covid, we were picking and choosing which ones not to breed,” said Brooke. “She was one to skip.”

Post-Street Lute, everything is different. The Bowmans have earned thousands in Maryland-bred and Delaware-certified awards, and their accidental star broodmare



A confident Street Lute wins Laurel's Wide Country Stakes under a hand ride.

headed to Kentucky to visit 2018 2-year-old champion Game Winner at Lane’s End Farm. Anonymous no more, Alottalute could have a big future thanks to Street Lute.

“It’s been really fun to watch,” said Brooke, who went right for the laugh in his next assessment. “As someone who has nothing to do with Street Lute anymore, I’m looking forward to her going undefeated for another couple of years. We’re her biggest fans over here. Gina keeps texting us, and pretty much now it’s one word, ‘Wow.’”

Shaw receives similar texts, and also doesn’t dwell on what might have been.

“I wish I’d have kept her,” he said of Alottalute, “but how would you know she was going to do that? It’s fun to have played a small part in it.”

Street Lute’s owner Lloyd plays a bigger part, but it involved plenty of chance too. The Baltimore resident grew up going to Pimlico with his grandfather and father and, when not playing baseball (at a Florida prep school, a junior college in Iowa and the Alaska Summer League before injuring his

shoulder) followed racing. Now the owner of Elite Parking Services in Baltimore, Lloyd bought three horses with Robb, after getting introduced by former jockey Eric Camacho, at Timonium in 2017. They all ran in Lloyd’s Lucky 7 Stables silks the next year. Joey Gotcha got claimed for \$10,000 in his fifth start. G’s Warrior cost \$1,000, won her second start and got claimed for \$16,000. Knock Out Kid (another \$1,000 recruit) won her debut at Pimlico, added two more victories and got claimed for \$32,000. Lucky 7 won three races in 2018 and four in 2019, topping \$100,000 in both years. Lloyd reinvested in 2019, picking out Street Lute after Robb made the winning bid at the sale.

“He picked seven or eight horses at the sale, and asked me which one I liked,” Lloyd said. “One was already taken, then I looked at them. I had good luck with fillies before, so I went back and saw her and a few others. I saw her and said, ‘That’s the one I want.’ She looked big, strong. I had no clue it was going to be like this.”

Lloyd and his filly weathered the eye surgery, the treatments, the waiting. Thus far Lloyd has resisted attempts to buy his filly while comparing Street Lute to a human athlete.

“Some of the offers are tempting, but I just don’t think it’s the right time or it doesn’t feel right for me,” Lloyd said. “She’s always been an underdog. Her bloodline isn’t the best. She hurt her eye. It doesn’t matter, it matters how their heart is and how they want to run. She wants to run. She’s all about business.”

Eye Test

Surgery helps Street Lute find success

Bluish-black, soft, bracketed by wispy eyelashes above and long, spider-leg-like hairs below, Street Lute's right eye looks like any other horse's eye—except for that one corner. The gray spot resembles a tiny jellyfish, a science-experiment blob, something photographed by the Mars rover.

In reality, it's what remains after an injury and microscopic surgery performed by Dr. Catherine Nunnery of Equine Veterinary Vision less than a year ago and a badge of honor for the budding star. The champion Maryland-bred 2-year-old filly of 2020, Street Lute and her eye opened 2021 with back-to-back stakes wins to improve to 7-for-8 (with a second) and push her earnings to \$410,220 for Lucky 7 Stables and trainer Jerry Robb.

"It's a nice success story," said Nunnery, based in The Plains, Va., and one of a handful of equine ophthalmologists in the United States. "We probably do 15 to 20 of these surgeries a year. Not all go on to race or have the highlights of their career going forward, so it's nice to see her go on and do some good things."

Nunnery labeled the injury a stromal abscess, a term which combines stroma (connective tissue, in this case of the cornea) and abscess (any encapsulated infection), and pinned the cause on a tiny puncture of Street Lute's eye most likely from a piece of hay or straw. Otherwise harmless, fungus from the hay or straw created the infection. Street Lute may have had some blurry vision, probably squinted a little and her eye might have produced more tears than normal. She also probably recovered quickly from any outward signs of an injury. All the while, the infection grew and eventually presented itself as something more serious than the typical eye injury.

Robb's wife Gina called Nunnery.

"It was not a typical corneal abrasion or ulceration," said the veterinarian, who first saw the filly in July. "Most have a scratch of their cornea. She had an infection within the layers of the cornea, deeper than the surface. We tried treating her medically. We placed a tubing system under her eyelid so they could inject medication, like a catheter system. A week or two, she was more comfortable but it was not improving the infection."

Nunnery compared a horse's eye to the windshield of a car. A scratch or chip could be on the surface or much deeper. In this case, the injury was deep and called for surgery with an operating microscope (similar to what's used in human cataract or Lasik surgery) and with the horse under general anesthesia.

"It's delicate. Imagine splitting the thickness of the windshield, like filleting a fish, the infection was deep but the surface was healthy so we can't damage the surface while we're doing this," said Nunnery, whose description also involved the creation of a "trap door" in Street Lute's eye to get to the infected area in the far right (left if you're looking at it) corner of her eye.

Using that trap door, Nunnery removed the infected layers of cornea, transplanted healthy cornea from another section of the filly's eye, sutured it in place, closed the trap door and sutured it closed. The surgery lasted about two hours.



"There are a lot of steps to it," Nunnery said. "The fileting, harvesting the new piece, opening up of the eye, closing it all up afterward. There are a lot of logistics and we don't do eight of these a day. It's a one-a-day kind of thing."

An abscess under 10 millimeters comes with optimism for a full recovery. Anything bigger brings a question mark. Street Lute's injury was about 12 millimeters, but she responded.

"She did great, recovered in four weeks, was holding it wide open, she was very comfortable," said Nunnery. "Week five she was done with any medications and heading back into training."

The rest is, well, really good. Street Lute won her debut at Delaware Park on Labor Day, became a stakes winner 19 days later, was beaten by a neck (when passed on her right in the final yards) in the Maryland Million Lassie and closed 2020 with three more stakes wins. She added the Xtra Heat and Wide Country to begin 2021, and eyed even more prestigious starts this spring.

If the eye bothers her, Street Lute doesn't show it.

"I wish I could put horse goggles on and know exactly what they see," said Nunnery. "She probably sees a little fuzzy in the hazy spots. Back toward her tail on the right side might be a little fuzzier. It doesn't seem to affect her in the forward view which is so much more important for her to perform. It takes about a year to heal the spot 100 percent with the scar tissue so she'll continue to improve."

Detection and Prevention

Nunnery called a horse's eye a "Petri dish" for infection, while also admitting that finding an eye infection can be difficult. Horses can show no effects until an infection takes hold. Initial injuries can happen out of sight—in a stall, outside in a paddock, from a hay net—and are easy to miss. Horses who live outside can injure their eyes on a stray fence wire or thorn, though about half the patients Nunnery sees are injured while eating from a round bale of hay in a field. She's a big believer in fly masks for outside horses, even in the winter.

"They go for the hay at the bottom and get a piece of hay jabbed into their eye," she said. "It's a simple scratch, but it can turn into something bigger. There's not much you can do prevention-wise, just be really observant. If you see a spot, let your veterinarian know."

And maybe mention Street Lute.

—Joe Clancy

Track Star

Track superintendent Bosley earns praise while fighting Maryland weather

BY PAUL HALLORAN. PHOTOGRAPH BY JERRY DZIERWINSKI

Only 40 days after he was hired by the Maryland Jockey Club as track superintendent for Laurel Park and Pimlico Race Course, Chris Bosley found himself at the epicenter of the Thoroughbred racing universe. It was Preakness Day 2018 and the racing surface at Pimlico was feeling the effects of several days of rain.

"It had been raining for a month and we've got the best horses in the world

coming in to run on a sloppy track," Bosley said.

At 7 that morning, Bosley's phone rang and on the line was Jamie Richardson, a former Maryland track superintendent and someone who truly could empathize with the pressure Bosley was undoubtedly feeling.

"What are you doing? Are you busy today?" Richardson asked.

"It calmed my nerves," Bosley said. "There was a lot of pressure, but I knew my crew had it. It was fun. I'll never forget my first Preakness."

His first as track super, that is.

"Normally, I'd be on the other side of the fence in the infield," said Bosley, who grew up in Phoenix, Md., about 20 minutes from the track.

The sloppy and sealed track had no impact on the running of the race, as Justify went gate-to-wire in the fog and won by a comfortable half-length on the way to his Triple Crown conquest.

"I was at Pimlico for 22 years and never saw a Triple Crown winner," said Richardson, only the fifth track superintendent ever at Churchill Downs. "Considering the weather, the track was as good as it could have been that day."

Bosley had survived his baptism by fire and it proved to be a harbinger of a successful tenure thus far.

"If there's an MVP this winter, it's Chris and his team," said veteran trainer Tim



Chris Bosley steered Laurel Park's racing surface through plenty this winter.

Keefe, president of the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association. "It's a hard job, especially in the Mid-Atlantic, with the weather. The decisions he makes affect a huge number of people."

Keefe is one of many in the Maryland racing community thankful for the decision to hire Bosley away from Timonium, where he served as track super for five years, even if it took the search committee awhile to identify him as a viable candidate.

"We did an extensive search and interviewed a lot of people until we came across Chris in our own backyard," Keefe said.

MTHA Executive Director Dave Richardson, also involved in the search, said the committee reached out to several experts, including Dr. Mick Peterson, a founding researcher of the Racing Surfaces Testing Laboratory, professor and director of the Racetrack Safety Program at the University of Kentucky.

"Mick reached out to his network and we circled back to Chris Bosley," Richardson said. "He checked all the boxes. There aren't too many people with that skill set."

The one factor that could have warranted concern was age; Bosley hadn't yet turned 28 when he interviewed for the job.

"It's understandable that they would be a little nervous," Bosley said. "Here's a 27-year-old and they're going to hand him the keys to the car and the Preakness is in a month."

While Bosley could appreciate the trepidation, he was confident in his ability to tackle the challenge.

"Timonium is not easy [to maintain]," he said. "It's a five-eighths track with banked turns. It's tough to handle. I always did everything in my power to provide the best and safest racing surface with the resources we had."

With Timonium hosting the Maryland State Fair meeting and the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May 2-year-olds in training sale, Bosley was far from an unknown commodity.

"I may not have had the best resume in the world, but people knew me and they knew I was going to bust my ass to give them the best surface there is," he said. "I understand it was a prove-it thing. If it didn't work out, they were going to try something else."

By all accounts, it has worked out better than anyone could have expected.

"It's been fantastic," Richardson said. "It's a world of difference from where we were. Chris has shown the ability to learn and to build a network he can tap into."

Peterson, considered one of the country's foremost experts on racetrack surfaces, remains part of that network. He thought Bosley was ready for the job, and has been impressed with his performance.

"If you can grade Timonium, you can grade anything," Peterson said. "Chris is a smart, ambitious, hard-working guy. He's got the skills and the work ethic."

Not only has Bosley shown he has the technical ability to maintain the surfaces at Laurel and Pimlico—both open for training 363 days a year (closed Christmas and Easter) unless the weather really wins out—his willingness to keep an open line of communication with the horsemen has earned him credibility and trust.

"You're not going to make everyone happy," he said. "In a 12-horse field, all 12 trainers are not going to be thrilled. As long as you give them consistency. I communicate a lot with the vets, jockeys, the starter and the horsemen. The most important thing is to make the track safe for horses and jockeys. Every single day, the track has to be ready to run the Preakness."

The job of the track super is never easy, but it can range from arduous to near-impossible in the winter in these parts.



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“Winter-time racing [stinks]. The weather changes so much. In February, we had a system come in every three days,” said Bosley, adding that snow and rain are not the biggest problem. “Ice is the absolute worst. You can’t do anything with it. It turns the racetrack to mush. I’d rather have snow any day.”

It’s just another variable for a track superintendent in the Mid-Atlantic, but as a lifelong Marylander, Bosley knew what to expect. He started going to work with his father, Chuck, the maintenance supervisor at Timonium for 40 years, when he was 6. As soon as he was old enough to drive, he was manning the water truck.

Bosley worked for Don “Chief” Denmyer, his father’s cousin and then the track super at Timonium. Once he started learning about cushion and grading and how to float the track, he was hooked.

“I became obsessed with it. That’s all I cared about. My education was hands-on, at the track,” said Bosley, who remembers the first time Denmyer let him grade the track.

“When I was done Chief walked the track and said, ‘We can race on this.’ He said it was pretty good for my first time,” Bosley said. “Every opportunity I had to get into the grader, I took it. It’s the old-school way to do it, but it was the best way for me. You figure out what works and what doesn’t.”

As a senior at Dulaney High School, Bosley was in a work co-op program that allowed him to take two classes in the morning—he often skipped the second, he said, since one gave him enough credits to graduate—and then head to Timonium for the rest of the day.

“On the day I graduated, I had to leave work early to walk across the stage and get my diploma,” he said.

Denmyer sounds like a minor-league manager proud to see his protégé make it to the majors.

“I remember when Chris was born,” said Denmyer, who moved into the elder Bosley’s job when he retired. “My son and Chris grew up at Timonium. Chris always took a real interest in the racetrack. He’s a natural. We didn’t want to lose him, but it was a great opportunity for him to go to a big track and have one of the legs of the Triple Crown.

“I couldn’t have been happier for Chris. His best feature is that he cares about what he does. Some people do their job and others really love what they do. That sets him apart.”

Bosley said he tries to balance science and ever-emerging technology with his old-school roots.

“You still need to trust your eyes,” said Bosley, who lives in Phoenix with his wife, Tiffany, and their children Jackson (4) and Haley (1). “If you think you see something

that is a little off, nine times out of 10 it is. The science takes all the doubt out of it. If one spot is sandier you can send out samples to get tested.”

Taking care of the turf courses presents additional challenges.

“Grass is a living, breathing thing,” Bosley said. “There are chemical balances. You can over-water, you can under-water. It might need something different every day. We’re at the mercy of Mother Nature when it comes to turf. It keeps you on your toes.”

Bosley said a structured lane schedule would be implemented at Laurel this spring so that he and his crew could perform “aggressive aeration.”

“Some lanes may not be available, but there will be a long-term benefit, to bring it back up to the standard of one of the best turf courses in the country,” said Bosley, aware that the buck stops with him, including when it comes to determining if the track is safe enough to run.

“If we can’t run, I call [MJC President] Sal Sinatra and we’re not running,” he said. “Sal has my back. He’s paying me to be his eyes and ears. I’m not going to put horses and jockeys in a position where they can get hurt. If I need to be criticized, I understand that. It’s nothing personal. We all have the same goal, to have a safe surface for horses to do what they’re bred to do—run.”

Blown Away

Hibiscus Punch continues ascent with 41-1 upset in Barbara Fritchie

BY TOM LAW

Justin Nixon took a call last fall at Laurel Park from Curtis Garrison, the latter inquiring about a mare the former might remember from prior seasons training north of the border at Woodbine Race Course in Canada.

“We’re going to send you Hibiscus Punch,” said Garrison, farm manager and trainer for Ed Seltzer’s Solera Farm in Williston, Fla.

“Oh, sounds good to me,” Nixon said. “Looking forward to it.”

Nixon, a native of Windsor, Ontario, who has gradually moved his base to

Maryland the last few years, knew the daughter of Into Mischief. He’d seen her run at Woodbine in 2019 when she made it to the races as a 4-year-old for her owners and breeders Seltzer and Beverly Anderson and trainer Kelly Callaghan.

One race for the now 6-year-old Kentucky-bred mare stood out, a second to eventual Grade 3 winner Painting in a 6½-furlong allowance on Woodbine’s all-weather track.

“I bet \$100 to win on her the day she got nailed. I wanted to throw something through the TV,” Nixon said in early

March. “She was 18-1, made the front and just got nailed late. It was a sting.”

The call from Garrison almost a year later, followed by Hibiscus Punch’s 40-1 upset of the \$250,000 Runhappy Barbara Fritchie Stakes-G3 at Laurel Feb. 20 healed the wound.

“We’re still pretty happy about it,” Nixon said. “We watch the replay of it quite a bit here at the barn; we’re guilty of that.”

Hibiscus Punch delivered the biggest upset of the six-stakes Winter Sprintfest card, delayed a week due to winter storms in the Mid-Atlantic and also featuring the \$250,000 General George-G3. Horacio Karamanos rode Hibiscus Punch to her 2½-length victory in 1:23.16 for 7 furlongs that returned \$85.60 to win for her supporters.

Nixon, who saddled Coltimus Prime to victory in the second jewel of the Canadian Triple Crown in the 2014 Prince of Wales Stakes at Fort Erie, celebrated his first graded stakes score in a career that started in 1995.

“Did I see it coming? No,” Nixon said. “I’d like to say I bet \$200 to win on her,



JERRY DZERWINSKI

walked out of there with pocketfuls, but no, I didn't."

Nixon admitted he and Seltzer, whose family bred four generations of Hibiscus Punch's family, hoped the mare could add a graded-stakes placing in the Fritchie to her second in the listed Willa On the Move Stakes in late December.

Hibiscus Punch earned her way into the Fritchie with a victory in a 6-furlong allowance in mid-January to improve to 2-for-7 in her career. That win was her first since a maiden-breaking score in early October 2019 at Woodbine.

The Fritchie attracted a strong cast led by Hello Beautiful, the 2-5 favorite riding a three-race win streak; Dontletsweetfoolya, a winner of five straight including a 2¼-length win in the Willa On the Move; and Grade 3 winner Sharp Starr, the likely New York-bred champion 3-year-old filly shipping in from Belmont Park. Of the eight fillies and mares who stayed in the Fritchie after the week delay, only Suggestive Honor at 174-1 went off a longer price than Hibiscus Punch.

Nixon said Hibiscus Punch benefited from the delay, which gave her an extra week from the Jan. 17 allowance win 22 days after her Willa On the Move effort.

"Mr. Seltzer breeds a lot, has this family, he's got sisters to her and our goal when he brought her up, we talked about the filly and he said, 'If we can get her stakes-placed at all I'll be thrilled,'" Nixon said. "We got that done and I was thrilled. She was a good second in there and came back in the a-other-than and raced lights-out.

"She and Karamanos figured out their style in that race. He knew the best way to race the mare—settle in, make a good run. If you watch the Willa On the Move, she kind of got in tight a bit late but she never quit. She just kept running. It didn't matter if somebody was coming over on her. Horacio, he rode her very, very well. The a-other-than, similar story, she tucked in and he had lots of horse at the three-eighths pole, he waited, was patient with her, didn't let her go too early and she finished great that day. We were just taking a shot [in the Fritchie], if we were third we would have been thrilled. If you look at that cast of horses in there it was a pretty deep group."

Dontletsweetfoolya set the pace under pressure from Hello Beautiful to her outside, with Karamanos content to track those two about 2½ lengths from the front through the opening half-mile in a wind-



LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

Hibiscus Punch strides clear late in the Barbara Fritchie part of a stakes-filled Winter Sprintfest card at Laurel Park Feb. 20. The Kentucky-bred mare gave trainer Justin Nixon his first graded stakes score.

aided :45.51. The leaders tired from their early efforts around the far turn and Hibiscus Punch, running like she should be 2-5

and not 41-1, rolled past in the stretch, took the lead at the three-sixteenths pole and opened up by 3 lengths with a furlong to run.

"I see the speed going, the two fillies to beat in front of me. I sat right behind them," Karamanos said. "I had plenty of horse. In the middle of the turn, at the quarter pole, my filly went on her own."

Hibiscus Punch stayed clear in deep stretch while the 18-1 Estilo Talentoso made a wide late run to outfinish 12-1 Club Car for the runner-up spot. Needs Supervision, off at 34-1, finished fourth to trigger a monstrous \$27,875 superfecta for a \$1 bet. Hello Beautiful struggled home fifth with Sharp Starr a non-threatening sixth and Dontletsweetfoolya seventh.

"Should we have been 40-1? Maybe not, but at the same time maybe 10-, 12-1 given the resumes of everybody else probably would have been realistic," Nixon said. "I was kind of blown away to be honest with how good she ran. I knew she had talent but to do what she did on Fritchie Day was jaw-dropping to be honest. I've got a great crew, they take great care of the mare."

"Mr. Seltzer and Bev, they're great to train for. The farm does such a great job when they come up. It's so nice to have everything fall into place and really nice

for the Seltzers to get a graded win with that mare in the family. Ed and I still talk about the race. Oh yeah. We're not finished enjoying it. We're going to enjoy this for quite a while yet."

Nixon started training for Seltzer and Anderson about seven years ago. He met them through another client, Jayson Horner, who co-bred and raced some horses with Seltzer and sent horses to Solera Farm.

Hibiscus Punch, out of the winning Machiavellian mare Bellini Sunrise, also spent time at Solera from late 2019 after Woodbine closed for the season until last October. She breezed on the farm for Garrison seven times from July to September before Nixon, who trained for the Stronach family from 2003-10, got the call that the mare was headed his way.

"Ed is so patient and doesn't send them out until they're right," Nixon said. "She was a little bit jarred up from the synthetic. Nothing in particular, nothing serious but just needed a little time, recuperation. They're patient and it pays off for them. They don't send them out unless they're ready to go. They're not an outfit that's going to send you a horse and say, 'Try it once or twice, if she holds up great, if not send her back.' They want to make

sure when they send them they're going to have opportunity to be productive for a period of time.

"And Curtis is very, very accurate on his assessment of horses. Other farms might say they're half-mile fit and they're not quite where they think they are. That comes with going to the big racetrack versus the farm. The farm atmosphere, that's just the way it is. But if Curtis says they're half-mile fit, they're half-mile fit. He told me, 'This mare is ready to go. Breeze her once or twice, she's ready.' And she was."

Hibiscus Punch gave the stable its third win of the season from six starts and Seltzer's Florida-bred Field Commission mare Lucre added a fourth win the day after Winter Sprintfest in a starter allowance. Nixon started his career at Fort Erie, where he won the Prince of Wales, and he'd won nearly 400 races through early March. He also trained multiple stakes winner and \$450,761 High Blitz and stakes winner and \$381,762-earner Royal Regalia, both homebreds for Stronach Stables.

Mild upset in General George

Share the Ride, a \$16,000 claim last July at Monmouth Park who won and placed in graded stakes last fall and this winter on the New York circuit, capped the day's



Share the Ride floats home in the General George, the Grade 3 companion to the Barbara Fritchie, Feb. 20.

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stakes with a slight upset in the co-featured General George.

The 6-year-old Candy Ride (Arg) gelding came through an opening along the fence entering the stretch under Victor Carrasco for his second graded stakes victory. Share the Ride, based at Parx Racing with trainer Miguel Penaloza, won by 2 lengths over late-running 22-1 longshot Tattooed with Laki third, Lebda fourth and 2-1 favorite Funny Guy last of nine.

Carrasco, winner of the 2013 Eclipse Award for outstanding apprentice jockey, earned the first graded stakes victory of his career beset by various injuries through the years.

"First of all, I want to say thanks to the trainer and the owner. I can't even explain," Carrasco said. "I've been through so much in my career [that] when I passed the wire, I could not believe it. But thank God we're here and thanks to Share the Ride, we got it done."

"The instructions were to not go to the lead, to make sure that I sit second or third, and I tried my best to do that . . . I just sat patient and waited and when we got near to the quarter pole and said, 'Go.' He responded well and we got the 'W.' "

Share the Ride improved to 9-for-23 before finishing sixth in Aqueduct's Tom Fool Handicap-G3 March 6. He'd finished third in Aqueduct's Toboggan-G3 Jan. 30 after a second in Laurel's Fire Plug Jan. 16 and winning Aqueduct's Fall Highweight Handicap-G3 Nov. 29.

"Everything came out like the plan we made. We're really happy," said Ramirez, who claimed the gelding with trainer Antonio Arriaga off Colts Neck Stable and Jorge Duarte Jr. July 5 at Monmouth. "He's a fast horse. He likes to run in front. He was a little behind last time. He didn't like it so much, so this time we were in front. That's the way he likes it."

Local products lead other stakes

Brittany Russell, who saddled beaten favorite Hello Beautiful in the Fritchie, didn't come away empty handed thanks to Pennsylvania-bred Maythehorsewithu scoring a 4-length victory in the \$100,000 Miracle Wood Stakes for 3-year-olds. With husband Sheldon Russell aboard, the Bullsbay gelding became the latest stakes winner out of Beasie Patterson's and Vicky Schowe's mare Avani Force.

The daughter of Forestry, who went from unwanted in the \$5,000 claiming ranks to stakes producer for Patterson and Schowe, died of colic in 2019. She's the dam of \$20,000 yearling and Grade 2 winner and \$573,720-earner Call Paul, stakes winner and \$40,000 yearling Pink



JIM MCCUE

FUELED BY 

Maythehorsewithu scored by 4 lengths in the Miracle Wood, his first stakes win.

Caddy and now \$55,000 yearling and stakes winner Maythehorsewithu. Avani Force also produced two other winners and a now 2-year-old Uncle Lino colt named Mr Sandman who sold for \$75,000 at the 2020 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale.

"One similarity with them is they all seem to be getting better and better," Patterson said. "Maythehorsewithu was always very attractive, very professional and Brittany has done a great job with him. I don't know if he'll be a Call Paul, but for those little stakes he's right there. He was a big surprise."

With his victory in the 1-mile Miracle Wood, Maythehorsewithu earned at least a look at Laurel's future steps on the 3-year-old ladder. The 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ -mile Private Terms was set for March 13, followed by the 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ -mile Federico Tesio (which comes with an automatic spot in the Preakness-G1) April 17.

"What a man. He showed up," Brittany Russell said of the Miracle Wood. "He appeared to take that step that I said we were hoping to see eventually. He's just a neat horse. If he needs to skip the next one, I believe he's probably worth it, if that's what he's telling us. But if he's touting himself and acts like he needs to run again, I guess three weeks isn't a big deal if the horse is doing well. We'll just let him tell us."

Maythehorsewithu races for Michael Dubb, who purchased the gelding through agent Liz Crowe, and Bethlehem Stable. He improved to 3-3-0 from seven starts

and \$156,215 in earnings in the Miracle Wood.

"He's the kind of horse in the morning that always trains very forwardly," Brittany Russell said. "You can't get this horse tired, and he always has big, huge gallop-outs after his breezes, so we were pretty confident that he would appreciate added distance."

■ Mike Trombetta wasn't quite sure what to make of Lucky Stride when he ran her for the first time in Saratoga's Shuvee Stakes-G3 the day after he sent out Win Win Win to victory in a blinding rainstorm in the Forego Stakes-G1 last summer. The then 4-year-old Kentucky-bred daughter of Declaration of War had run exclusively in Puerto Rico after selling for \$7,000 as a 2-year-old in 2018.

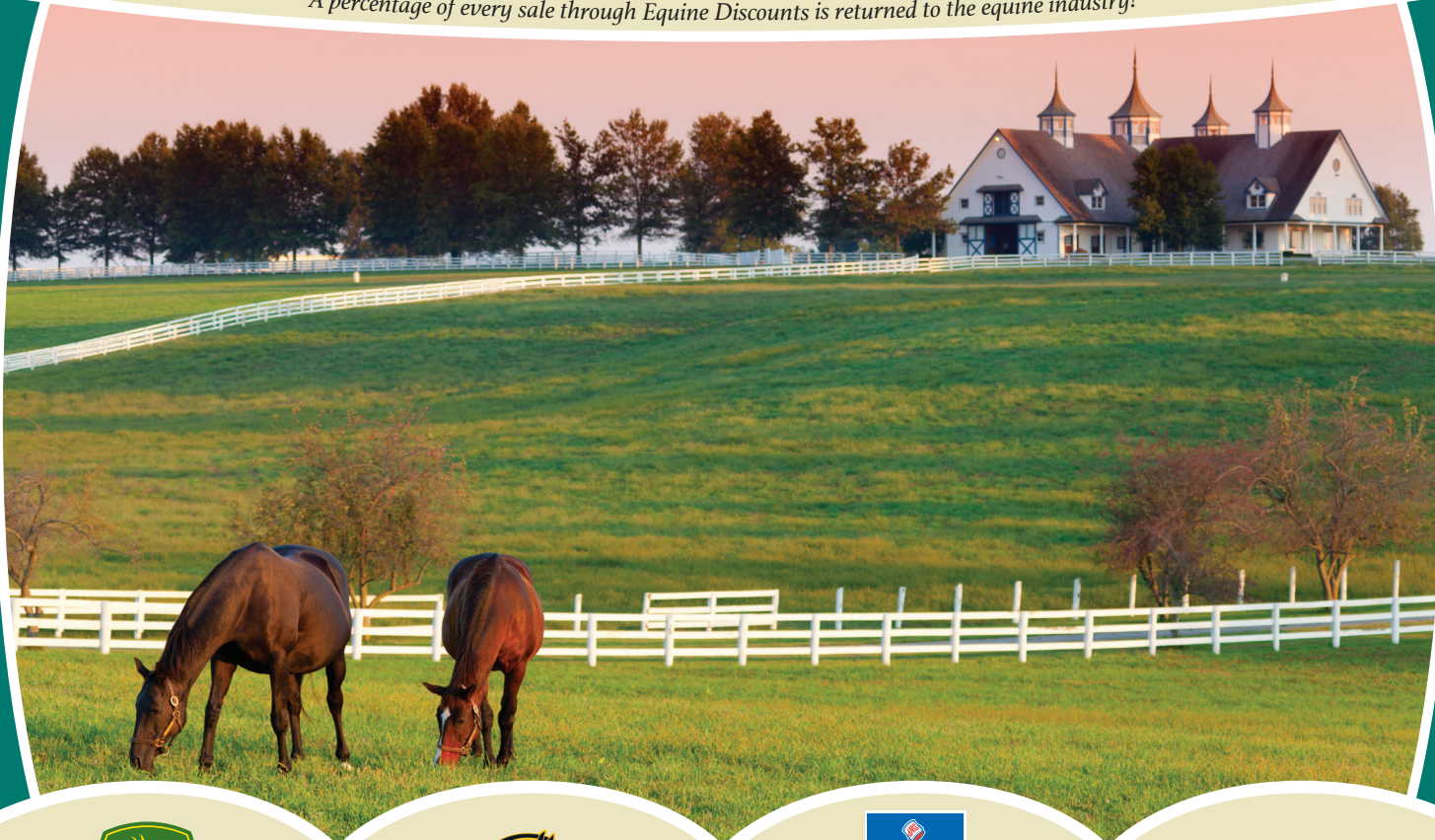
Trombetta breezed her four times at home at Fair Hill after the filly showed up in the summer then twice more at Saratoga—both times in company with Win Win Win—before the Shuvee.

"We're hoping to see her form hold up in the United States, which is why she's here," he said of the filly who brought an 8-for-11 record with her to the Spa. "The owner [Sonata Stable] wanted to give her a chance on this side of the continent."

Unlike Win Win Win, Lucky Stride didn't show up, finishing fifth after a belated run. Trombetta regrouped, brought her back to Maryland, tried the grass with moderate success (a third and fourth in small stakes at Monmouth and Belmont,

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Lucky Stride wins her second stakes of 2021 for trainer Mike Trombetta in the Nellie Morse.

respectively) before going back to the main track. Lucky Stride found her Puerto Rican form, finishing second in the Thirty Eight Go Go Stakes at Laurel in late November and winning the Wayward Lass Stakes at Tampa Bay Downs in January to set up her run in the \$100,000 Nellie Morse Stakes.

Prepped at Gulfstream Park in Florida, Lucky Stride didn't mind the cold in Maryland and continued her winning ways in the 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ -mile stakes, making a four-

wide run around the far turn under Julian Pimentel on the way to a 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -length victory over Landing Zone as the 9-10 favorite in the field of eight. Pimentel also rode Lucky Stride in her second to Eres Tu in the Thirty Eight Go Go.

"I spoke with [Trombetta] and he didn't want me too far back but in contention," Pimentel said. "Last time at Laurel we faced a tough filly. Today we just needed to be in a good place."



New York shipper Bankit (left) leads everyone home in the John B. Campbell for trainer Steve Asmussen.

■ Winchell Thoroughbreds' and Willis Horton Racing's Bankit ventured into open company—and out of his native New York for the first time in four starts—and came away with a victory in the \$100,000 John B. Campbell.

A winner of the Alex M. Robb over state-breds for his lone win in 2020 late in the year, the 5-year-old son of Central Banker won by 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths over Galerio as the 8-5 favorite with Cordmaker third in the field of eight. ★

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Laurel Park

2/20 **Barbara Fritchie-G3** (\$250K). 7F. 4&up, F&M.

Winner: **HIBISCUS PUNCH** (b.m., 6, Into Mischief—Bellini Sunrise, by Machiavellian). B/O-Edward A. Seltzer and Beverly Anderson (Ky.). T-Justin J. Nixon. J-Horacio Karamanos. Time: 1:23.16. Margin: 2½. 2nd: **Estilo Talentoso**. 3rd: **Club Car**.

2/20 **General George-G3** (\$250K). 7F. 4&up.

Winner: **SHARE THE RIDE** (dk.b./br.g., 6, Candy Ride-Arg—Belle of the Hall, by Graeme Hall). B-Dixiana Farms (Ky.). O-Silvino Ramirez. T-Miguel Penaloza. J-Victor R. Carrasco. Time: 1:22.85. Margin: 2. 2nd: **Tattooed**. 3rd: **Laki**.

2/20 **John B. Campbell** (\$100K). 1¼ mi. 4&up.

Winner: **BANKIT** (b.h., 5, Central Banker—Sister in Arms, by Colonel John). B-Hidden Brook Farm LLC and Blue Devil Racing (N.Y.). O-Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC and Willis Horton Racing LLC. T-Steven M. Asmussen. J-Sheldon Russell. Time: 1:42.07. Margin: 1¾. 2nd: **Galerio**. 3rd: **Cordmaker**.

2/20 **Miracle Wood** (\$100K). 1 mi. 3YO.

Winner: **MAYTHEHORSEWITHU** (b.g., Bullsbay—Avani Force, by Forestry). B-Beatrice Patterson and Vicky Schowe (Pa.). O-Michael Dubb and Bethlehem Stables LLC. T-Brittany T. Russell. J-Sheldon Russell. Time: 1:37.02. Margin: 4. 2nd: **Tiz Mandate**. 3rd: **Kenny Had a Notion**.

2/20 **Nellie Morse** (\$100K). 1¼ mi. 4&up, F&M.

Winner: **LUCKY STRIDE** (b.m., 5, Declaration of War—Magic Madison, by Ghostly Minister). B-Aschinger Bloodstock Holdings LLC (Ky.). O-Sonata Stable. T-Michael J. Trombetta. J-Julian Pimentel. Time: 1:43.38. Margin: 1¼. 2nd: **Landing Zone**. 3rd: **Artful Splatter**.

2/20 **Wide Country** (\$100K). 7F. 3YO F.

Winner: **STREET LUTE** (ch.f., Street Magician—Alottalute, by Midnight Lute). B-Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Dr. Brooke Bowman (Md.). O-Lucky 7 Stables. T-John J. Robb. J-Xavier Perez. Time: 1:23.59. Margin: 1. 2nd: **Fraudulent Charge**. 3rd: **Salt Plage**.

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Making Ends Meet

Steeplechase leaders adapt, audible through Covid as 2021 season arrives

BY SEAN CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOD MARKS



At the helm of the Carolina Cup meet in South Carolina, Toby Edwards hopes to host a socially distanced crowd on a new date May 22.

Toby Edwards stood atop the airy Springdale Race Course grandstand and imagined that the Carolina Cup was actually happening, the infield filled with revelers, tents dotting the scene like hotels on a Monopoly board, horses rolling down the backside in the big one, the announcer's voice rattling through the pine trees, a job well done by all. Edwards rode races over the Camden, S.C. course, galloped horses over the course and directs a race meet at the course. Last spring, none of that was happening, the 2020 version

canceled, so Edwards stood still in the silence, just he and a vast, empty space. Sobering. That's how he described it.

Bill and Carrington Price set out a couple of tables and chairs Friday night. On a windy Saturday in Minerals Springs, N.C., they joined their son, daughter-in-law, 1-year-old grandson, the executive director and the volunteer director of the Queen's Cup Steeplechase and tried to have a picnic in paddock parking, near the finish line. In what was meant to be the 25th anniversary of the Prices' baby, their pride and joy, they

ate a little, mostly stared at each other. An oblivious 1-year-old, some twice-bitten sandwiches and silence. Bill Price called it surreal, then switched to weird. Simply, weird.

Doug Fout went to Virginia's Glenwood Park like he's done on the third Saturday in April for, oh hell, his whole life. The horse trainer and course director wandered through the empty barns, climbed the stone steps where John F. Kennedy and every kid of every jump owner, trainer, jockey have traversed, half-heartedly checking on things and full-heartedly wondering about what was to come. The Middleburg Spring Races had been postponed until June. Who knew if that would work. Fout certainly didn't. He walked down to the plaque, a tribute to his father Paul, at the finish line. "Dad, you won't believe this..." Eerie. That's the word.

For those three race-meet directors and all the others in American steeplechasing, last year was the worst year. A year of uncertainty, a year of upheaval. A year of dismay, a year of disruption. A year of financial challenges, a year of emotional turbulence.

As Covid crashed the world in March, the spring steeplechase circuit was decimated, forcing the cancellation of 14 race meets and the postponement of two. The Middleburg Spring Races and the Virginia Gold Cup pulled off spectator-free marathon cards in June, providing a lifeline to horsemen desperate for opportunity. Those were the only two who managed to pull off miracles to salvage something from the spring. By summer, racing switched to Colonial Downs and Saratoga. By fall, the sport patched together six meets from a scheduled 12 to limp away from a battering year of life, of sport.

For a sport that survives on spectators and sponsors for most of its revenue, the 2020 ledger reads like a war-torn diary. Races decreased from 167 in 2019 to 80 in 2020. Purses declined from \$5.9 million to \$1.6 million. Race meets dropped from 25 to nine.

Here are the stories of three race meets. Just three speaking for all the others who fought a pandemic in 2020 and face uncertainty in 2021.

The Carolina Cup has held a traditional spot on the calendar, the second stop on the circuit after its neighbor, the Aiken Steeplechase for decades. The last Saturday in March or the first Saturday in

April, the spring carnival swelled to 70,000 spectators before being reined in to a safer, saner number over the last decade or so. Last year was meant to be the 86th renewal. Instead, Edwards stood atop the erector-set grandstand and contemplated what might have been, pulling the plug when Covid broke out in Kershaw County around March 11. The meet was just three weeks away.

"We were left with no choice but to cancel. Up until that time, we were moving forward as though we would be able to hold the races. It was very close," Edwards said. "You were deflated. Everything you worked toward was gone, it was disappointing for the staff in the office, they had done a lot of work and they didn't get to see their hard work pay off and have a day of racing. It was frantic when we canceled, we had a lot of things to undo and undo as quickly as we could, so we weren't spending more money. The office was really busy, it wasn't until race day when it sunk in."

Race day, March 30, simply slipped past. The rite of spring, a day to get outside and celebrate a South Carolina tradition became one of the first sequestered Saturdays in what would become a long, tiring line of them.

Horsemen backed off their horses and waited. Race meets read their cancellation policies if they had them, invented ones if they didn't, looked at budgets, payroll, investigated Paycheck Protection Plan loans and began to make hard decisions about employees and the future.

"Financially, we realized we had to really tighten the belt, because we are a 501(c)(4), we didn't fall into any federal money, we had to be careful and we were," Edwards said. "We unfortunately had to lay off a number of people and we did that very quickly, we ran it on a skeleton crew, it's been tough and the [2021] purses reflect that. We've got to recoup some of our losses."

In November, the Carolina Cup decided to move its traditional early spring date for 2021, sliding into an open weekend May 22, hoping for more time for Covid restrictions to be lifted. In an ever-changing world, it's promising at the moment. The meet will offer five races with a reduced purse structure of \$100,000 and expects to have a significant crowd while practicing social distancing and other pre-

cautions. Fewer tents, bigger tents is part of the approach.

"We made the decision to move in November, which was quite far out, the feeling at the time was that there was no way we would be able to run the event on the normal date," Edwards said in early March. "Hindsight is 20-20, the governor lifted all restrictions on large gatherings last Friday, but we made the right decision. By May 22, people will be a lot more comfortable going to a large event."

Local and large. Like all steeplechase meets, the Carolina Cup benefits the entire community from horsemen to hotels, small business to small charities. An economic impact and a spiritual one as well. All took a hit last year.

The Camden Jaycees manage the six entrance gates on race day. Camden High School (Go Bulldogs) sells the programs. The Junior Welfare League runs the merchandise tents. The Sea Cadets, a ROTC group, handle the parking lots. The Palmetto Pony Club organizes the stick-horse races. All receive charitable donations from the Carolina Cup for the efforts. For many, it's the biggest fundraiser of the

year. In 2020, a year when more people needed more help, none of that happened.

"In a small community like Camden, it's a big effect. If the community volunteers didn't get behind the event, it would almost be impossible to run a successful event," Edwards said. "I'm happy where we fit into the calendar. It's exciting to know that we will have a race meet."

Surely, Edwards will walk up to the top of the grandstand and take a good, long look on race day. Well, maybe Sunday morning.

"The real gratification comes at the end of the day when you've hopefully pulled off a successful day of racing. From the horseman point of view, your sponsors are leaving happy, your patrons are leaving happy, from the casual general admission ticket holder who just decided to pull up on the day with a small cooler and walk into the event. To know all those people have enjoyed themselves, that's the most important thing. It will be great, it will be an emotional high, that's for sure."

■ For Bill Price, there was no emotional high in 2020.



North Carolina's Queen's Cup Steeplechase, and leader Bill Price, will race without spectators on its traditional date April 24—the first meet with hurdle racing in 2021.

By March, the Queen's Cup had sold out in six of its eight tailgate areas, the most tickets ever sold at that time of year, about seven weeks before the sched-

uled 25th anniversary of the meet near Charlotte, N.C.

On March 14, Price walked into his house, fresh cut grass still on his pant

legs from another trim of the manicured mile-and-a-sixteenth oval. It was 5:35 p.m., North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper, who had been hinting at a shutdown, announced that the state was indeed shutting down effective Tuesday, March 17. The Queen's Cup was six weeks away. And then it wasn't.

"It was emotional, but in a sense, it was a relief, because we were starting to get customers who had bought tickets ask, 'What happens if you have to cancel...?' We didn't have an answer, we had a no-refund policy. We had never been there before," Price said. "In a way, it was easier to blame the governor. We thought about pushing off, but it came back to what are we pushing off to? A lot of the race meets pushed and then they canceled, I don't blame them, but that didn't do anything for the horsemen or the owners."

Price, a steeplechase owner as well, didn't hesitate, canceling the 2020 meet and started to plan for 2021. It was long, slow, arduous and ever-changing. On Jan. 15, they landed on a no-fan plan with \$100,000 in purses, a gesture to the horsemen and the sport, nothing else. In this year's condition book, it reads the 24.5th renewal of the Queen's Cup. It probably won't even feel that good.

"We decided that if we couldn't run with 100 percent [attendance], it would be better to run at 0 percent. The cost of maintaining social distancing and the restrictions that the governor has put on us, it's just not worth the hassle of pissing off people. You will piss off people," Price said. "We have patrons that go back to the very beginning. Our governor said we could have 15 percent, but we still have to have social distancing, hygiene stations, on and on and on. You'll hit that 15 percent pretty fast. That's 1,500 people, we've got 5,000 that have been with us since 1995. We just said, 'Let's go with zero and do it for the horsemen.'"

The decision will be greatly appreciated by owners, trainers, jockeys, grooms, van drivers and all the others who work in the game. The Queen's Cup serves as the first meet with hurdle racing, offering a reduced purse structure for all types of horses—maiden, maiden claiming, ratings and novices over hurdles, an allowance timber and two flat races over one of the best courses on the circuit. And no fans. Like taking the waves out of the ocean.



Virginian Doug Fout eyes a later-than-usual Middleburg Spring race meet with at least some spectators in attendance.

How are steeplechase race meets dealing with Covid in 2021?

"There is some hesitancy, we've had some long-time racegoers who have called and said they didn't want to renew because they weren't comfortable. We are understanding of that and we'll hold their tailgate spot for 2022. That's not a large percentage but as race meets, we are cognizant of that. We've got to make sure we run an event that people are comfortable coming to and when they leave are comfortable that we've done everything we can to make it a good and safe experience."

Toby Edwards, of the Carolina Cup in Camden, S.C.

"This was not an easy sale to our board. It's all about hospitality and entertainment, they don't see that there is a sport behind it."

Bill Price, of the Queen's Cup Steeplechase near Charlotte, N.C.

"When you're down and out and struggling, people will step up to the plate. 99.9 percent of the people did what they were supposed to do. Everybody bucked up. It shows you what the game really means. But, man, I don't want to do that again."

Doug Fout, of the Middleburg Spring Races in Middleburg, Va.

Price put a line in the sand and made the call.

"There were four ways we could go, 100 percent, 50 percent, 0 percent or we're canceling. We all agreed that canceling was not an option, but the math doesn't work. I couldn't make the math work," Price said. "Our board asked, 'Why are we doing this?' If you can't have an audience, without income, why are we doing this?' I said, 'If we don't run, there is a very good chance that's the end of the sport.' It may not rest on our shoulders, but I don't want to be the one who topples it over. I want to be the one that's going forward, not backward."

Price called sponsors Novant Health and Brown Advisory and they agreed to support the 2021 version of the Queen's Cup. Those integral supporters stayed the course and others followed suit in what everyone hopes is the first and only spectator-free edition of the venerable meet just outside Charlotte.

"Our patrons understood, most importantly, our sponsors stuck with us," Price said. "We are using last year's money this year, but we spent a lot of last year's money because we thought we were having a race. We stopped the rentals, stopped the food, stopped the purses, stopped the ancillary costs that came with it. It's been an interesting year. But everybody can say that."

In the bigger picture, Price worries about his meet, all the meets.

"We decided that we weren't going to be a statistic and we're going to have to count that 2022 will happen," Price said. "I hope it will happen. I think it will happen. I'm fairly certain it will happen. But I said that last year."

■ In a year of tough decisions, Edwards and Price made theirs. And Fout made his, perhaps the toughest one of all.

Middleburg was one of six meets to reschedule last spring, originally reserving a May 30 slot. Those six winnowed to two with Middleburg pushing back to June 13 and the Virginia Gold Cup sliding to June 27. Middleburg offered an unprecedented 11 races and the Gold Cup countered with 10. The two meets were limited to essential people (if you didn't have a job you weren't there), offered live streaming for owners at home and most importantly opportunities for horsemen.

The historic meets made history.

"We were the first ones to do it, so we had to write all the protocols, which everybody wound up following. We didn't know for sure that we could run the races until Thursday night," said Fout, who swears he aged five years because of it. "That was the hardest part, because we had already put out so much money. The Virginia Equine Alliance, the NSA Foundation [Temple Gwathmey Steeplechase Foundation] and about seven individuals pulled through to help us get enough money for the purses and do what we had to do."

The overnight burst with 115 horses in 11 races on the flat, over hurdles, over timber and over the steeplethron course. If you're keeping score, it was 25⁵/₈ miles of action.

For Fout and his team, it was high pressure performed in the vacuum of an empty amphitheater on what should have been a celebration of 100 years of racing at the iconic course. All the while, paying more and providing less.

"With Covid, we had to have so much more help to get through it, taking temperatures, separating everybody, extra tents. The numbers were mind-boggling, but we didn't lose as much as I thought we were going to lose," Fout said. "I'm glad I don't have to go through that again. It was too much stress trying to get everything done and run 11 races on top of it. At least it happened, for the horseman and the owners."

As for 2021, the Middleburg Spring Races shifted to May 1, two weeks later than the traditional spot and a week after the hurdle opener at Queen's Cup. Middleburg will offer eight races, including the Grade 2 Temple Gwathmey Hurdle Stakes, for a solid \$205,000 in purses, the second highest behind spring finale, the Iroquois Steeplechase, delayed from its traditional spot May 8 to June 16 in Tennessee.

As of March 7, Middleburg is allowed to have 1,000 spectators and Fout expects that to grow as Covid subsides and restrictions are lifted.

"At least with that, the Sport Council members and our biggest supporters can come and watch the races," Fout said. "To not have the owners and our biggest supporters, who have been with us for years, that was tough. I was afraid we would lose a lot of people, but we've only lost two, which has been huge. It was amazing how many people stepped up to the plate which

2021 NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE ASSOCIATION SCHEDULE

- April 10 My Lady's Manor
- April 17 Grand National
- April 24 Queen's Cup Steeplechase
- April 24 Maryland Hunt Cup
- May 1 Middleburg Spring Races
- May 8 Willowdale Steeplechase
- May 15 Radnor Hunt Races
- May 22 Carolina Cup Races
- May 29 Virginia Gold Cup
- May 30 Winterthur Races
- June 5 Tryon Block House Races
- June 26 Iroquois Steeplechase

For more, and most current, information see nationalsteeplechase.com

showed how many people actually care about the game and want to see it happen." Here's to seeing it happen in 2021.

NOTES: The spring National Steeplechase Association calendar was slated to begin March 28 with two sanctioned races at the Cheshire Point-to-Point in Pennsylvania . . . The Virginia point-to-point circuit started March 13 with the Warrenton Hunt Point-to-Point and included stops at Piedmont March 20, Warrenton again March 28, Old Dominion April 3, Blue Ridge April 11, Loudoun April 18 . . . In Maryland, point-to-points were slated for March 27 (Green Spring), April 3 (Elkridge-Harford), May 1 (Howard County) and May 16 (Potomac) . . . In addition to Cheshire, Pennsylvania's point-to-point schedule included a stop at Brandywine April 4. In all cases, rules for spectators varied and were subject to change pending local health regulations . . . NSA spring meets Aiken and Foxfield opted to cancel in 2021. Fair Hill was not scheduled while awaiting further progress of the new turf course. ■

Odd Feeling

Maryland Hunt Cup returns without its star as timber racing looks ahead

BY JOE CLANCY

“Well, Senior Senator is ticking over and starting to get serious. He had a great off-season and we’re really looking forward to another great spring. He’s such a special horse...”

Mid-March conversations with trainer Joe Davies typically included a statement that went something like that. They used to anyway, before Covid canceled the 2020 Maryland Hunt Cup and colic claimed one of the historic timber race’s brightest lights. After being canceled for the first time since World War II, the 124th Hunt Cup is scheduled for April 24. Organizers are planning for limited spectators, hoping for continued easing of health regulations and looking at a list of 23 horses on the early nomination list.

There is no Senior Senator, who became the ninth horse to win the race three times with a 4-length triumph at age 9 in 2019. He was meant to try for a record-breaking fourth win in 2020, perhaps go for five in 2021, maybe become another American hopeful at Aintree or some other far-fetched goal but life, death, pandemics and all the rest thwarted such lofty possibilities.

The race’s cancellation, and his death, mean that for the first time since 2011 the Hunt Cup field will not include a previous winner of the race. That odd fact won’t diminish the hope of owners, trainers and riders looking to make history.

“It’s not the same . . .” said Davies, letting the sentence tail off and emphasizing the obvious. “But we’re OK. They’re having the race.”

Yes they are. As it first did in 1894, the 4-mile, 22-fence classic will go to the post and no one is more happy about that than co-secretaries Nancy Roberts and Liz McKnight.

“It was devastating not to run last year,” said McKnight, a Hunt Cup-winning jockey in 1986. “It was our first time to be

chairwomen and it really threw us for a loop. It wasn’t hard to make the decision [to cancel], because we had to. The aftermath was very difficult.”

With no corporate sponsors, the Hunt Cup relies on spectators for virtually all of its revenue. As they have for generations, people pay for parking spaces—all advance sales now—and show up in droves. It’s a rite of spring, a marker of time, a sporting spectacle with few peers. A few generous subscribers donated their 2020 fees to the cause, but the Hunt Cup will have to make do with lower revenues this year as health regulations will cap attendance. In March, the figure was 250 and invitations were sent out with a “first come, first served” notice to sign up early. McKnight hopes for some easing of limits as vaccinations expand and regulations for outdoor events change, and she’s encouraged by messages from longtime subscribers eager to return.

“We have people calling us saying, ‘I have got to come this year. I can’t miss it,’” McKnight said. “We were going to do anything we could to run this year and we hope it might get back to normal at some point.”

The Hunt Cup purse will be \$60,000, down from \$100,000 for the last four runnings, but that won’t limit the field even if the nomination list is devoid of a star. Davies, bidding for his fifth consecutive win in the race as a trainer (Senior Senator scored in 2016, 2018 and 2019; Derwins Prospector in 2017) nominated four. Maryland-bred Hill Tie finished fifth in 2019 for owner Sportsman’s Hall and has competed in the Virginia Gold Cup and Grand National timber stakes. Armata Stable’s Some Response (Ire) ran twice in 2020 and was aiming to get started at some early point-to-points this year, but lacks experience. Another Armata runner, Vintage Vinnie (Ire) won at Great Meadow

last fall and won five English races including one over the Grand National brush course at Aintree in 2017. Coastal Moon was purchased from trainer Todd McKenna in the off-season and will get a chance to show he belongs.

The most accomplished Hunt Cup runner on the list is undoubtedly Drift Society (Ire), whose record in the race includes placings in the previous four runnings. He was third to Senior Senator in 2016, second to Derwins Prospector in 2017, third to Senior Senator in 2018 and second to Senior Senator in 2019. Trained by Jack Fisher for Bruton Street-US, the 13-year-old will get another chance after not running anywhere in 2020. Professor Maxwell and Make Me a Champ won the race at 14 in 2013 and 2005, respectively, so age isn’t necessarily a disqualifying factor. Fisher and Bruton Street will also aim 11-year-old Preseli Rock (Ire) at the race.

Two-time Pennsylvania Hunt Cup winner Mystic Strike made the nomination list for Upland Partners and trainer Todd McKenna and will tepidly look at the Maryland race while eyeing other opportunities too.

“He’s gone around the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup pretty successfully two years in a row,” said McKenna, whose horse also won the 2019 My Lady’s Manor. “It’s 4 miles, usually a pretty good test for a horse, but he hasn’t been to the Grand National and that’s something you like to do with a Hunt Cup horse too. The problem with the Maryland Hunt Cup is that if you go there and it doesn’t go well you can ruin the rest of your year. You hate to do that with a horse who rattles off as many wins as he does elsewhere.”

The trainer will aim for the Manor, after a point-to-point, and then adjust accordingly.

“It’s in the mix, but it’s not our priority,” McKenna said of the Hunt Cup. “It’s probably going to be more of a feeling as we go along as to whether we try for it or not. He loves his job and we’ll see how it goes.”

Virginia trainer Richard Valentine won the Hunt Cup with Professor Maxwell and with Michele Marieschi (GB) in 2009, and aims Just Wait And See (Ire) to the 2020 version for Kinross Farm. The 12-year-old finished fifth in two timber stakes last year and won an allowance race over the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup course in 2019. A

Maryland Hunt Cup try was in mind when the horse was imported in 2018 and may come to be this year.

“By going to the Pennsylvania Hunt Cup last fall, I think we’re on the right track to get to the Maryland Hunt Cup this year,” Valentine said. “You never know until you run them, but I think he’s that kind of horse or could be. He hunted with Limerick and the Scarteen in Ireland, had run in the Golden Button [cross-country steeplechase with some 50 starters] and won the banks race at Punchestown. If you’re looking for a Hunt Cup horse, you want an all-arounder and he’s that.”

Others on the list include Hunt Cup veterans Joshua G. and Jeffery G. (Pennsylvania-bred half-brothers). The former finished second in 2018 and was third in 2019 and has started in the last five runnings.

Trainers Billy Meister and Willie Dowling matched the Davies stable with four nominees. Owner Irv Naylor is represented by Jeffery G. and Hooded, the latter a Juddmonte Farms-bred son of Empire Maker and Grade 1 winner Yashmak who won a maiden timber race in 2018 after running over hurdles for three seasons.

Maryland Timber Rundown

Like the Hunt Cup, Maryland’s other spring timber meets navigated Covid protocols and various limits put in place by county and state health officials but planned to run after canceling in 2020. Mike Wharton, the Maryland Steeplechase Association’s president and also chair of the Green Spring Valley Point-to-Point, helped create attendance parameters for the meets—even as some limits were expected to change.

Guidelines for outdoor athletic events capped attendance at 250, which prompted Wharton to propose dividing a race meet into two events—one attended by people associated with the running of the races (trainers, grooms, jockeys, officials, etc.) and another attended by spectators. The outdoor space available, separate entrances and other distance-friendly factors played key roles in crafting a solution.

“The rules were written for baseball games, lacrosse games, things like that, and that’s the bucket they put us in,” said Wharton. “The limit was 250 people, and

we made a proposal—in writing—that we be treated as two events. That answered their questions and we were approved by the state and Baltimore County (home to the Grand National April 17 and Hunt Cup plus Green Spring Valley Point-to-Point in late March).”

Similar arrangements will be crafted in Harford County for My Lady’s Manor April 10 and Elkridge-Harford Point-to-Point and potentially other meets in Maryland and beyond. The goal was, always, to run the race meets to maintain opportunities for horses and horsemen while considering the future of the sport. Steeplechasing weathered a year of limited racing in 2020, and might not have been able to do so for a second consecutive year.

“It’s very important to run, and as long as we could do it legally we were always going to run,” said Wharton. “It might have been easier to run without spectators, but if we can get 250 people to come and sit on that hill and watch races, it would be a nice thing to do. So many people were begging us to run.”

The ever-changing spectator limits will be one more challenge for race meets, but organizers were prepared. At My Lady’s Manor, sponsor tents with elaborate food and drink spreads and closed-circuit television, typically line the homestretch. They will be replaced with parking spaces for sponsors. Other reserved parking space

will be conserved—maybe one car where two or three used to be—with a focus on customers who purchased higher-priced spaces. Like the Hunt Cup, the Manor cut its purses somewhat but focused on returning to the schedule.

“For the racing game, if we go two years without it people might forget about it and find a different sport to do, we want to keep the racing alive,” said meet co-chair Ross Pearce. “It was bad enough to not have it once last year. People pride themselves on running it and it was important to bring it back. We had no choice last year, everything stopped.”

At the Grand National, it’s a similar message. The conversation started with how to hold the races, and then turned to how to manage attendance. Co-chair Forrest Kelly paid credit to Wharton with asking the right questions and helping with the process from the beginning, and to co-chair Ned Worthington with managing the business details.

“Mike stuck his neck out there, made the right connections and once they had a template for us to use he shared it and it’s been a big help,” Kelly said. “We had to drop our purses, but that’s OK. We wanted to make sure we could run. You want people to have opportunities and last year was tough. Horses who couldn’t race don’t get those years back.”

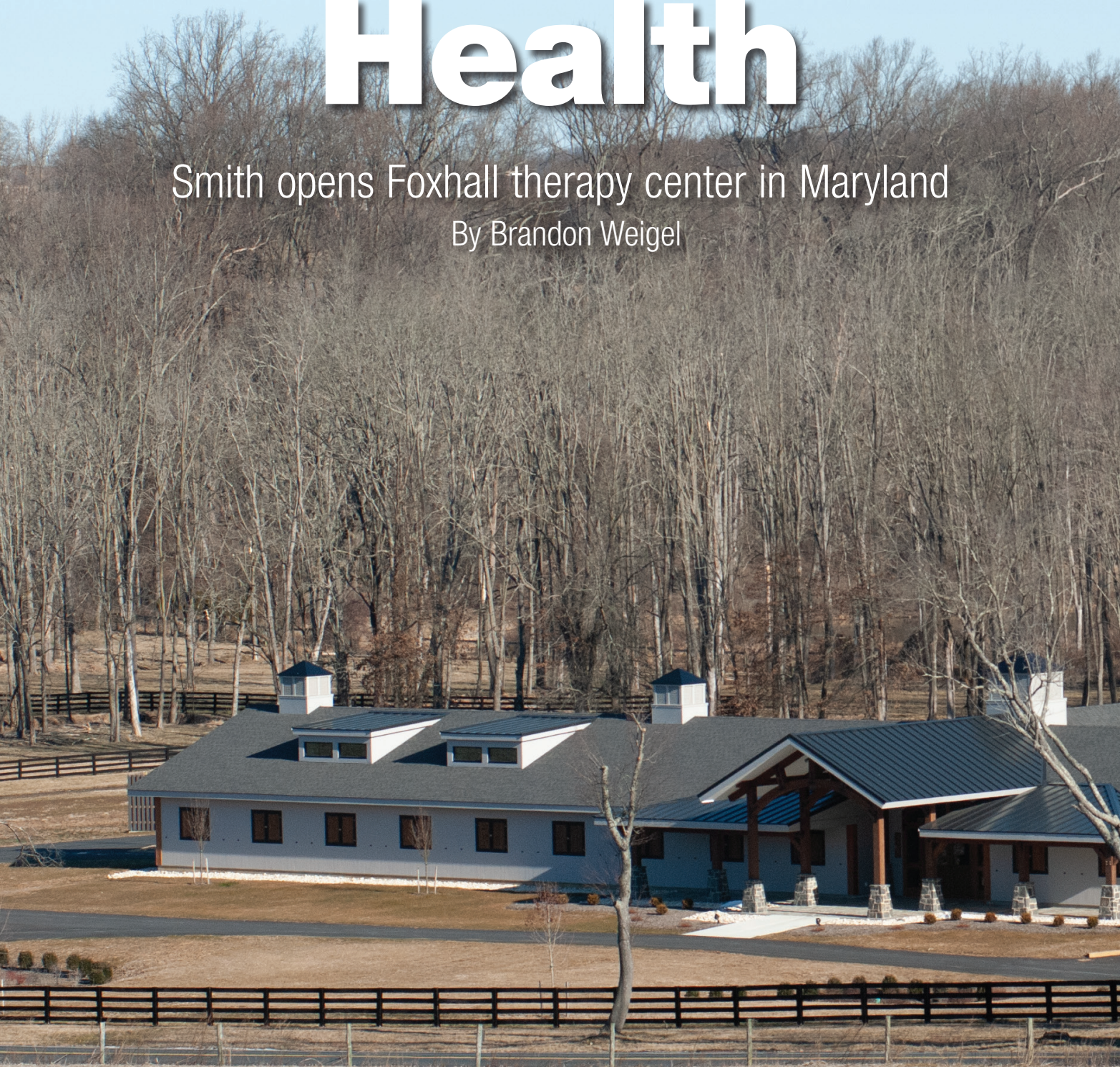
MARYLAND HUNT CUP EARLY NOMINATIONS

<i>Horse</i>	<i>Owner</i>	<i>Trainer</i>
BATTLE ARAY b.g.13	Billy Meister	Billy Meister
CANYON ROAD ch.g.12	Gordonsdale Farm	James Piper
CLASS INDIAN gr/ro.g.14	Jeremy Batoff	Willie Dowling
COASTAL MOON b.g.10	Blythe Miller Davies	Joe Davies
DADDY IN THE DARK b.g.11	H. Bruce Fenwick	H. Bruce Fenwick
DRIFT SOCIETY (Ire) b.g.13	Bruton Street-US	Jack Fisher
GAS CAN EDDIE ch.g.14	Mrs. William D. Class Jr.	Billy Meister
GRAND MANAN b.g.12	Armata Stables	Billy Meister
HILL TIE b.g.11	Sportsmans Hall	Joe Davies
HOODED b.g.10	Irvin S. Naylor	Cyril Murphy
JEFFERY G. ch.g.14	Irvin S. Naylor	Jason Cole
JOSHUA G. ch.g.15	Armata Stables	Kathy Neilson
JUST WAIT AND SEE (Ire) dk b/g.12	Kinross Farm	Richard Valentine
LE CHEVALIER gr/ro.g.12	Michael A. Smith	Julie Gomena
MYSTIC STRIKE b.g.12	Upland Partners	Todd McKenna
NATURALLY WON gr/ro.g.9	Northwoods Stable	Willie Dowling
PRESELI ROCK (Ire) ch.g.11	Bruton Street-US	Jack Fisher
RENEGADE RIVER dk b/g.8	Kiplin Hall	Willie Dowling
ROCKET STAR RED ch.g.9	Lucy Goelet	Mark Beecher
SIDELING HILL dk b/g.9	Kiplin Hall	Willie Dowling
SOME RESPONSE (Ire) b.g.9	Armata Stables	Joe Davies
SPOILER ALERT b.g.10	Billy Meister	Billy Meister
VINTAGE VINNIE (Ire) b.g.12	Armata Stables	Joe Davies

On track for Health

Smith opens Foxhall therapy center in Maryland

By Brandon Weigel



Dr. W. Christopher Smith III bought his farm with an eye toward a future business. Four years ago the veterinarian and his fiancée, Kayla Bettenhauser, were looking to relocate from Poolesville, Md., and settled on a plot 80 miles away in Fallston. One big selling point: the parcel included a relatively flat piece of land just off Hess Road in the middle of the area's horse country.

"Man, it would look great if we put a clinic down there," Smith, 35, recalled thinking of the 20-acre field.

They ended up signing the papers to buy it.

As Smith put it, Bettenhauser is "a saint and she went all in."

With help from his parents, Smith opened Foxhall Equine, a sports medicine and equine rehabilitation facility, last fall.



BARRIE B. REICHTLER (2)



During his childhood in Annapolis and Towson, he grew up around horses: His dad, W. Christopher Smith Jr., always had racehorses with friends and his mom, Debra Donovan-Smith, rode in barrel races at local rodeos; as a kid, Smith took up riding and joined the National Barrel Horse Association himself. He eventually decided to pursue a career as an equine veterinarian, attending Virginia Tech, St. George's University and Cornell.

After working for Maryland Vet Group, the primary practice serving Laurel Park and Pimlico Race Course, Smith saw a need for such a center, joining a handful of others in the area such as Fair Hill Equine Therapy Center. Horses with soft-tissue injuries, bone chips and other conditions require time off or surgery, but the issue for owners and trainers often becomes where to send horses after the operation, and how to help them mend. Not all owners and trainers have farms, or can handle recuperation and rehabilitation.

Over the better part of eight years, Smith and his dad had an ongoing conversation about the possibility of opening a practice using sports medicine and rehab for such injuries.

"I think it was a lot of me telling him, 'Hey listen, I think that this would be a great idea, and here's the research I've done on it,'" Smith said.

When he began formulating a clearer idea for the clinic, Smith knew he wanted to have an underwater treadmill, cold water spa and a salt room. After researching other facilities and some more brainstorming, the plans grew to include a solarium, laser therapy, ultrasound, thermal imaging and other amenities to help Thoroughbreds and other sport horses heal and train.

There are 26 stalls, including an isolation stall if a horse needs to be quarantined. With Smith living on the property, Foxhall also offers in-house veterinarian care 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Horsemen have worked with various therapies and procedures for years, but Smith sees only greater acceptance as people see results.

"Now, I think, with these advances in technology and these rehab places, we can provide clients with the ability to bring these horses back quicker than the standard care of leave them on the farm, turn them out, and see if they come back in six months," he said.

One client, Corby Caiazzo, trainer and farm manager at Berkley Farm in Darlington, Md., attests to the results. He brought a 5-year-old gelding, Muchacho, to Foxhall for a tendon injury, and had such



Dr. Chris Smith uses a thermal imaging scanner in the exam room, which also includes a scale and a video screen to view diagnostics

BARBIE B. REICHTLER

good results that he returned with a 4-year-old filly, Incontrovertible.

After placing in two maiden races last year, Incontrovertible came up sore and was given time off. Owner Sinatra Thoroughbreds had hoped to run the New York-bred filly at Saratoga, but she didn't seem right when training resumed. Smith suggested some treadmill treatments, and now she's doing well and expected back at the farm soon, Caiazzo said. He also sent a yearling with a stifle injury for rehab.

In addition to the medical care his trainees receive, Caiazzo appreciates the attitude Smith and his team exude when a horse is making progress.

"You get a feeling they're excited to see them leave there and continue their career with success," he said.

Construction on Foxhall began in October 2019. To staff the place, Smith brought over some workers from his farm operation and recruited people he had worked with in the veterinary field.

Having that familiarity and knowledge base allowed Smith to "unplug" his brain a little and focus on other aspects of starting the business, he said, and everyone who joined bought into his vision and helped get it off the ground.

"Everybody really dug in, which I appreciated," Smith said. "Everybody, me included, had never been involved in something from the ground up, even my fiancée. Countless, countless, countless hours of talking about this, talking about the business, talking about the numbers,

talking about how we're going to open up and what populations of horses we're going to attract."

Foxhall opened last October, right in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic. The state-ordered lockdown and public health protocols hampered the rollout, but Smith said people are still finding out through social media and word of mouth. Since opening, there have been as few as 18 horses in the barn, and at other times they've been at capacity.

Two of the biggest hurdles in the early going are battles of perception: One, that Foxhall is a place many people can't afford, and two, that the operation will cut into the business of other veterinarians in the area.

Owners will drive by, see the new barn with its grand, wooden arch entrance and think, "Oh God, I'll have to hit the lottery to send my horse there," Smith said. "And then they don't give it another thought."

Boarding fees are more in line with other farms at \$40 per day, he maintained, and the clinic runs promotions on Facebook to tack on free treatments as part of a rehabilitation package, such as two free aqua treatments when you purchase eight.

As for the concerns of other veterinarians, Smith wants to make Foxhall an amenity for the entire horse community in the area, calling such turf battles "outdated thinking." There's more room for working together.

"A lot of these horses, it takes a village," he said. "And that's what we're trying to do,



Foxhall team member Anthony Wise accompanies a horse on the AquaPacer treadmill, where he can control the water level to decrease stress on limbs. Right: Tiffanie Crouse introduces a horse to the coldwater spa, while another horse takes in some salt therapy.

get the village together and make this place be a beacon for the horse community.”

In Smith’s view, Foxhall’s services fit right in with the medical offerings of Manor Equine Hospital—where Smith previously worked as an intern and extern—just down the road in Monkton and other veterinarians close by.

The first thing guests will notice when entering Foxhall Equine is a giant chandelier of antlers. Made in Colorado from the sheddings of elk and mule deer, the piece gives off a rustic vibe that bucks the sterile feel of many medical offices.

Just down the hall is a room for owners to have a coffee or a snack and watch a livestream of what transpires across the way in the exam room, equipped with ultrasound, radiography and thermal imaging machines. The last piece creates a heat map of a horse’s body to look for abnormalities or inflammation, offering a non-invasive method to check for injuries.

It’s also in the exam room where Smith and his staff use regenerative lasers, which can target specific parts of the body and used in combination with stem-cell and plasma therapies.

“A lot of people get turned off when vets want to poke and prod and all that,” Smith said during a tour of his practice. “This is a nice, non-invasive piece of medical equipment that’s drug-free. And the quality of healing that it gets is far better than any drug we have out there.”

Next door is the aquatics room with the treadmill and spa. With walls on two sides and tall doors on the others, the treadmill can fill up with varying amounts of water, allowing caretakers to provide more or less stress on joints and tendons. The temperature can also be adjusted depending on the prescribed treatment.

The cold saltwater spa next to it helps take down swelling and inflammation.

Back by the chandelier, down the hallway with boarding stalls, are the solarium room and salt therapy room. In the former, staffers can use panels affixed with infrared lights to treat back pain, skin disease, and even seasonal depression—like humans, horses need their time in the sun, and the lights provide Vitamin D.

“They’re not machines. It’s not like pulling your car into the gas station, filling it up with gas, and away you go,” Smith said. “These are living, breathing creatures that need some of the same things we need.”

The salt room is just as it sounds: the mineral is crushed up behind a wall and sent into the stall as an aerosol spray.

“When I first started it was hocus-pocus,” Smith joked. “I thought it was something women in Malibu do to get away from their husbands.”

Turns out breathing in salt works as both an anti-inflammatory in the lungs and an agent to clear out mucus, bacteria, and fungi.

Out back there are four paddocks and a Kraft Horse Walker for exercise.

When Covid restrictions allow, Foxhall plans to host dinner-and-learn educational events modeled after a similar series at the New Bolton Center in Kennett Square, Pa. Much like worrisome parents fretting over their children or people who panic when their temperature is too high, horse owners will run to the internet when the first symptom of an illness shows up, Smith said. That will often lead to a panicked phone call to a vet.

With these events, people can learn what to expect at various stages of a possible ailment and when it’s appropriate to seek medical help.

“The topics are endless,” Smith said. “We could probably do one every day for 20 years and not cover half the topics.”

Those talks will be mutually beneficial; think of the adage, “Knowledge is power.”

“An informed client and a knowledgeable client is the best client,” Smith said. “We want this place to be not only a pillar of rehab and health, but also an educational resource.”

Going forward, Smith and his team will continue to engage owners, trainers, veterinarians and other members of the community. And Smith expects to add new diagnostics and other equipment to expand what Foxhall provides.

“I don’t think we’re done,” he said. “I think we’re still going to try and grow what we have here and the services that we offer.”

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FOXHALL EQUINE

Placement

In a previous column I wrote about a lesson Marshall Jenney and I learned on the windswept hill in Barn 45 at Keeneland. Marshall had a very desirable mare to sell and he had been placed in the barn that, at that time, was as far as you could be from the sales pavilion and yet still be on the Keeneland grounds. Marshall was sure he was being punished for being a regular Fasig-Tipton Saratoga consignor and groused about it for three days. On the day of the sale, he led her up and sold her for \$875,000, a princely sum that far exceeded his expectations. We learned that buyers will find a good horse no matter how well it is hidden on the grounds.

There is, however, a corollary to that rule which has to do with which sale you choose to enter. I think the most important service a sales agent provides is the ability to appraise a horse and the knowledge of where that horse will be most favorably received. When I was a young man starting out, I thought sales placement was rocket science and I took horses everywhere from Saratoga to Little Rock, but over the years I realized I could find a spot for every horse within a relatively small group of sales. We stopped going to Ocala because Timonium seemed to fit the same type of horses and we stopped going to Saratoga because we rarely had horses of the quality to be in the top half of that catalogue.

The top half of the catalogue is where you always want your horse to be. That means your appraisal should always be higher than the historical median for that sale or in the case of Keeneland September the book in which the horse sells. Keeneland is like five or six sales held in a row. Conventional wisdom held that Book Three was "when the hats change" i.e., from tweed flat caps to cowboy hats. Nowadays, everyone wears ball caps so it's not so notable. Now it's when the goosenecks start to overflow the lower parking lot.

I'll cite two examples of horses being in the wrong place. On successive years we had colts at Saratoga that didn't belong there. The first was a Crafty Prospector colt we had for a client. Clients love Saratoga. It's what they dream about on



long, cold nights in the foaling barn. The colt was nice, correct but not breathtaking. He never got a following at the sale and we bought him back for \$35,000. The following year we had a Strike the Gold colt of our own. He was breathtakingly beautiful, but he had rather small feet and he was by Strike the Gold. I don't think we ever had a live bid on him, and he was not sold for \$40,000.

Both colts reappeared six weeks after Saratoga in the Eastern Fall yearling sale at Timonium. The Crafty Prospector topped the sale at \$67,000 and a year later the Strike the Gold sold for \$87,000. Both horses were purchased by people who had looked at them in New York but had no recollection of that fact. In Timonium they shined. In Saratoga they were lost. The median in Saratoga was more than \$100,000, the median in Maryland was \$11,000. Make your horses stars.

My friend Wayne Chatfield-Taylor has a hard and fast rule, "Never take a horse with a European pedigree to Timonium." I think that this is a good rule to follow.

In 1970 the champion 3-year-old in France was a son of Sheshoon named Sassafras (Fr). Trained by Francois Mathet he won six of 11 starts including the Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby) and the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. In the "Arc" he defeated the English Triple Crown winner Nijinsky II. Obviously, he was a very, very good horse.

Sassafras (Fr) went to stud in Ireland with limited success and some years later, he was acquired by Bill du Pont to stand at his Pillar Stud in Kentucky. Pillar had a reputation for acquiring interestingly bred European horses with stout pedigrees. Sassafras (Fr) fit the bill.

In pinhooking, you make your money when you buy but you don't get paid until you sell. Aside from a deep knowledge of market trends and a keen eye for devel-

opmental conformation it is important to understand who is likely to be a bidder when you resell your yearling.

In October 1982 at the Ocala Breeders October mixed sale I stumbled across a Sassafras (Fr) colt out of Dina Marie. He was a half-brother to an Italian stakes winner. I liked the colt and bought him for \$9,500. I hadn't owned the colt for five minutes when buyer's remorse set in. I had broken the golden rule. I had no idea who in the world would buy this colt the following September. The sire was not popular in America and Italian black type was suspect, at best. For 11 months I berated myself for the stupidity of buying this colt. We entered him in Keeneland September knowing he would only appeal to Europeans but also sure he would be too late in the sale for any Europeans to still be in Kentucky.

As expected, the colt was Hip 1791, placing him in the last quarter of the sale. He was, I'll admit, a nice colt with a lot of presence and, on the few occasions when he was out of his stall, showed himself very well. When we led him up to the ring I felt like the rat in the trap. I had forgotten about the cheese and just wanted out. He walked into the ring and suddenly he was the subject of a bidding duel (albeit a minor one) between the French bloodstock agency and the BBA Italia bidding on behalf of the owner of the Italian stakes winning half-brother. They went in excruciating \$200 jumps from \$5,000 to \$27,000 when the Italians were successful. It felt like it took 20 minutes for the sale to take place and I was emotionally drained at the end.

Where else in America could you end up with the only two bidders in the world who were even remotely interested in that colt? Lesson learned, disaster averted, we were back in Ocala a month later restocking the shelf.



2021 Maryland Steeplechase Governor's Cup Series

Presented by  FARM CREDIT



Oil by artist Sam Robinson

SamRobinsonFineArt.com

Saturday, March 27 Green Spring Valley Point-to-Point Hunt Valley

Saturday, April 3 Elkridge-Harford Point-to-Point Monkton

Saturday, April 10 My Lady's Manor Monkton

Saturday, April 17 Grand National Steeplechase Butler

Saturday, April 24 Maryland Hunt Cup Glyndon

Saturday, May 1 Howard County Race Meet Brookeville

Sunday, May 2 NJRA Champions Day Hunt Valley

Sunday, May 16 Potomac Hunt Races Poolesville

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I'm Steppin' It Up joins Bybee stallion roster in West Virginia



LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

for \$1,500, gets a boost of mares since a test breeding in 2018 in Maryland.

"My little farm does not get the mares," says his owner Kelly Deiter, who stood the earner of \$701,759 at her Royal Wux Farm in Chestertown. "He's a nicely bred stallion who puts out a beautifully correct foal. And I just think if he can get someplace to get more foals he'll have a good opportunity."

Deiter was going to sell him this past year, but had second thoughts. "I couldn't part with him—I like him a lot," she said. "I like every one of his foals so much." The stallion has one registered 2-year-old from a test breeding and a few yearlings, plus babies due this year. "We have a bunch of mares booked to him already," said Deiter.

I'm Steppin' It Up came to Deiter as a layup in late 2017 after a career in which he made 78 starts on the East Coast. He broke his maiden at 2 at Delaware Park and concluded that year with a third behind champion Uncle Mo in the Grade 1 Champagne. I'm Steppin' It Up won his first stakes in the Kent at Delaware Park at 3. He

Dennis Bybee has added I'm Steppin' It Up, a four-times stakes winner and Grade 1-placed 2-year-old by top sire Congrats, to his Bybee Road Farm on Avonwood roster in Kabletown, W.Va. The 13-year-old chestnut stallion, standing

Top Mid-Atlantic sires of 2021

Based on 2021 earnings through March 13
(D-deceased; R-retired)

General earnings

Sire	mrs	wnrs	earnings
Wicked Strong (Pa)	91	20	\$538,376
Golden Lad (Md)	35	14	457,762
Jump Start (Pa-D)	61	13	452,619
Great Notion (Md)	35	10	443,232
Fiber Sonde (WV)	58	20	438,691
Windsor Castle (WV-D)	61	23	421,491
Bandbox (Md-D)	35	10	410,475
El Padrino (Pa-D)	42	11	362,279
Warrior's Reward (Pa)	60	14	301,360
Poseidon's Warrior (Pa)	45	12	296,869

Second-crop sires

Sire	mrs	wnrs	earnings
Mosler (Md)	17	8	\$225,581
Uncle Lino (Md)	15	3	92,319
Social Inclusion (Pa)	10	1	63,295
Barbados (Md)	2	2	55,359
Peace and Justice (Pa)	5	1	40,093

took Belmont Park's Chief Tamanaco next out, added Delaware Park's Eight Thirty and Carl Hanford Memorial later in his career, and also finished third behind Palace Malice in Belmont Park's Grade 3 Westchester in 2014. Racing through age 9, the Florida-bred finished in the top three in 34 of his 78 starts, 10 in stakes.

Deiter took him after the previous owner asked her to find him a home but decided to breed to him after researching his record and family. "He was hard-knocking—if you'd look at his legs, to stay sound as long as he did and try, he has a lot of heart," she said.

Out of the Thunder Gulch mare Cindy Woo Who, I'm Steppin' It Up is a half-brother to stakes winners Thunder Brew and Cuppy Cake and stakes-placed Giddy Up. His second dam, stakes winner Jeb, is a half-sister to champion Beautiful Pleasure, whose six Grade 1 wins included the Breeders' Cup Distaff-G1.

Bybee now stands five stallions at his 400-acre farm. He added former Maryland stallion Despite the Odds in 2020. The son of Speightstown ranked third on the 2020 West Virginia stallion rankings. Monster Mash, a son of Ghostzapper who earned \$343,492, has first-crop yearlings; multiple stakes winner Aaron's Way is the sire of one foal in a test crop of 2019 and yearlings this year. Veteran sire Three Chopt Road rounds out the roster.

First-crop arrival



LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

The first foal for graded stakes-placed First Mondays is a colt out of Pearly Beach (by Tiznow) bred by Glenangus Farm born Feb. 24. First Mondays (Curlin—Formalities Aside, by Awesome Again) stands at Northview Stallion Station in Chesapeake City, Md.

New to West Virginia for 2021

I'm Steppin' It Up



Lydia A. Williams photos



Congrats—Cindy Woo Who, by Thunder Gulch

Multiple Stakes winner of \$701,759

Stakes winner at 3, 4 and 6 – G1-placed at 2

By Congrats

TOP 10 SIRE FOR 6 YEARS

A.P. INDY'S PROVEN VALUE SIRE

Out of a multiple stakes-producing daughter of THUNDER GULCH. Family of champion BEAUTIFUL PLEASURE (MG1, \$2,734,078) and MG1 MECKE (\$2,470,550).

\$1,500 LFSN

Property of a Partnership

NEWS AND NOTES

Editorial returns to the U.S.

It took more than a year but Climax Stallions' Editorial made the return trip from Peru, arriving back in the U.S. in late January to stand at Anchor and Hope Farm near Port Deposit, Md.

Quarantine issues and a shortage of cargo planes kept him in South America last year. The 7-year-old half-brother to Uncle Mo entered stud in Maryland in 2018 and has his first foals getting to the races this year. The son of War Front and the Arch mare Playa Maya stands for \$2,500 live foal. Climax Stallions offers a "Ship and Win" incentive of \$500 for the owners of mares who make their first visit to Editorial in 2021.

First runner a winner for Declan's Warrior

Three-year-old filly Charm Weaver became Declan's Warrior's first winner when scoring by 2 lengths at Charles Town in a 4½-furlong maiden race Feb. 4 in her third start. Bred and owned by

Richard Harris and trained by Ronney Brown, the chestnut filly is the first starter for her sire, who stands at O'Sullivan Farms in Charles Town, W.Va.

The graded stakes-winning sprinter of \$423,440 finished first or second in eight of 12 starts and won the Grade 3 Bay Shore in his stakes debut. The 11-year-old son of Majestic Warrior from the family of Canadian champion Deceit Dancer stands for \$1,000 live foal.

Bandbox gone at 13

Bandbox, one of the top young stallions in the region, was found dead in his paddock at Northview Stallion Station in Chesapeake City, Md., Feb. 17. He was 13.

In his first three crops to race he has sired eight stakes performers, led by multiple stakes-winning daughter Artful Splatter. He ranked in the top 10 among Mid-Atlantic sires in 2020 by progeny earnings—the only stallion in the top 10 with less than 50 starters—and was the region's leading third-crop sire. He has sired 74 percent winners from starters



and career earners of more than \$3 million through March 14.

Raced by Ellen Charles' Hillwood Stable, Bandbox competed four seasons, won or placed in seven stakes and scored his biggest victory in the 2014 General George Handicap-G3. In 15 starts the gray son of leading sire Tapit and the Grand Slam mare Empty the Bases won five and placed in five others for earnings of \$390,345.

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27.8

In 2020, Maryland stallions boasted the largest average book of mares outside of Kentucky.

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End of an Era

Sagamore Farm's equine legacy lives on, even with change

Story and photographs by Sara Gordon

On Nov. 5, 2010, just three years after Kevin Plank purchased and restored Sagamore Farm in Reisterstown, Shared Account swept across the finish line to win by a neck in the Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Turf-G1 at 46-1, with Edgar Prado sporting Sagamore's redesigned three-diamond maroon and black silks.

Ten years later, Sagamore and WinStar Farm's Woodward Handicap-G1 winner Global Campaign finished third in the 2020 Breeders' Cup Classic-G1. It was the colt's last start before retiring to stud duty at WinStar, but also the end of a 14-year chapter as Plank announced Sagamore would move out of breeding and racing and focus on the Sagamore Spirit venture.

The historic farm has served a variety of purposes, starting out as fields of alfalfa before Isaac Emerson, inven-

tor of Bromo-Seltzer, turned it into a horse farm for his daughter Margaret in 1925. Margaret gave the farm to her son, Alfred G. Vanderbilt Jr., when he turned 21 in 1933. Vanderbilt turned Sagamore into a landmark as a premier breeding and training facility, starting with the colt Discovery, who later sired the mare Geisha, who produced the great Native Dancer, and the rest was history.

But over time Vanderbilt's operation shrunk, and the farm was sold to developer James Ward in 1986. Grandeur turned to dilapidation until Plank, founder of Under Armour, purchased the property in 2007.

Despite his new focus, the 530-acre facility will remain as it stands, though some of the pastures will be converted and used to grow corn and rye for the whiskey brand. The springhouse, built in 1909,

supplies the water Sagamore Spirit's Baltimore distillery uses to proof rye whiskey.

Though there will no longer be racehorses on the Tape-ta track, or broodmares filling stalls as they wait to foal, a small herd of retired horses will call the farm home. The Sagamore Farm team will also remain to care for the horses, keep the legacy of Plank's Sagamore Racing alive and continue sharing the farm's history.

The property is much quieter these days, and a couple of the barns completely empty, but the work hasn't subsided for Debbie Moorefield, Jocelyn Brooks and the rest of the Sagamore staff.

Debbie

Moorefield has spent almost half of her life working at Sagamore Farm, full-time and part-time during the Vanderbilt era and for Plank, and



Jocelyn Brooks (with dog Coco) and Debbie Moorefield head Sagamore Farm's management team on site.

this will be the first year she won't have pregnant broodmares to foal out.

"I'm always going to miss having mares and having babies, but you know, never say never," said Moorefield. "[Plank] said that, so it's OK."

The Pennsylvania native grew up showing, eventing and participating in Pony Club, while going to the racetrack with her father to watch his horses at Charles Town and Shenandoah Downs. "I got in trouble at Charles Town for galloping the pony on the backside," she recalled with a laugh.

By her 20s, Moorefield was trudging along in a full-time job at her local township water and sewer office, though the idea of working in the Thoroughbred industry piqued her interest. She aimed high, and left her information with Sagamore, Windfields in Chesapeake City and Glade Valley in Frederick.

A few weeks later, a late night out with a friend led to Moorefield calling in sick to work the next day, something she'd never done, and

at 10 o'clock that morning her phone rang. Harold Ferguson, Sagamore's general manager, was on the line.

"I think about that all the time because if I'd gone to work that day, [since] we didn't have answering ma-

chines, nobody would have answered the phone and he would've called somebody else," said Moorefield. "That Saturday I came down here and met with him, said I would start in two weeks, went back and gave two

weeks' notice, then packed my bags and moved to Sagamore. It was in March of 1980 and I came and worked in this barn."

After four years as a groom, assisting in the breeding shed and helping the veterinarian, she moved to Tim and Nina Gardner's Welcome Here Farm down the road, and served as the farm manager for 16 years. When they moved to Pennsylvania, Moorefield remained for a year before returning to Maryland and handling the books for a restaurant, while also working for Rick Abbott and his Charlton Bloodstock at the sales.

In 2004, Abbott hired her as his administrative assistant. Handling the office, working at sales and helping foal watch on the farm, she acquired a new set of skills under the guidance of Abbott and his wife Dixie. But once Abbott decided to retire and sell the farm, Moorefield sought out something familiar.

She had met then Sagamore general manager Tom Mullikin at a sale, was doing some foal watching at the farm and it was only natural to ask about a job.

"You have a full-time job here whenever you want it," Mullikin told Moorefield.



Debbie Moorefield and the farm team (from left) Jose Vega, Alfredo Martinez and Quezada Valente help Chase Greatness on the horse's first day of turnout at the farm.

She felt like a newcomer.

"I hadn't worked in a barn in 15 years when I came here, and I wasn't crazy about going back to the barn, I was so out of shape," she said. "The first week I was here, Quoth the Raven knocked me down and drug me across the pea gravel, ripped my jeans from like my thigh to my ankle. I said, 'Oh my God . . . I'm too old to do this.' But you know I lost a couple pounds, got fit again, and I love doing this."

Returning full-time to Sagamore in 2013 as broodmare manager, she has overseen the births of some 60 foals, highlighted by Shared Account's daughter Sharing, winner of the 2019 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf-G1.

Moorefield spent every day with Sharing as they prepared for the 2018 Maryland Horse Breeders Association yearling show, and later the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga select sale. If the paddocks and barn aisle could talk, they'd have plenty of stories of the time Moorefield spent marching Sharing around. Like a doting mother, Moorefield over-analyzed every detail, as she did with every other horse, fed her extra, kept her in on the rainy days, and remedied every blemish she could.

And when the two reunited last year at Fair Hill Training Center, just before Sharing headed off to Royal Ascot to run in the Coronation Stakes-G1 (she finished second), it was as if no time had passed.

"I cried. That was a big deal that day. My heart rate must have been through the roof," she said. "When we walked down there, as she came off the racetrack, I swear to God she looked right at me and took a couple of steps off of the path. I cried."

Brooks backed up her co-worker.

"She took a few steps toward us, and I said, 'We'll call this her Black Beauty moment.' She just sort of veered toward us like, 'Oh hi, I know who they are.' It was really, really cool. I give myself chills just talking about it. It was special."

Harpers First Ride, winner of last year's Pimlico Special-G3, multiple graded stakes winner Blamed, stakes winner Ginger N Rye and \$245,939-earner Bring Me Answers are just a handful of spe-

Sagamore Lineup

Sagamore Farm's roster of retirees keeps horse tradition alive, under the guidance of Debbie Moorefield and Jocelyn Brooks.

Chase Greatness: The homebred by More Than Ready out of Salsa Star won once as a 2-year-old in 2018 before he fractured his right front sesamoid and ended his racing career. Though the prognosis was grim, and surgery wasn't an option, he went back to the farm and recovered. After dealing with laminitis in his left front leg and slow healing in the other, Chase Greatness transitioned stall rest to hand-walking to turnout in the round pen. The lifelong resident lives out with his friend One Ninety Nine and enjoys a pampered life. Watching him gallop around the field still amazes the staff.

Create Fearlessly: The first foal of Sagamore's homebred graded stakes winner Daring Dancer is a 5-year-old son of Uncle Mo who never raced. He'd been in training, but a variety of lameness issues always kept him out of the starting gate. While the team hoped he'd get another chance, he'll enjoy his downtime on the farm and potentially be up for adoption as a riding horse.

Crooked Bridge: An unraced homebred by Verrazano out of Naïve Enough, the 5-year-old mare is fondly known as the "very crooked, honoree retired broodmare." Though she was never bred, she lives with Sagamore's two retired broodmares Dictate the Tempo and Tizthen. Previously used in EquiTeam's equine-assisted psychotherapy program at the Baltimore County Agriculture Center in Cockeysville, Md., Crooked Bridge will live out her days on the farm unless there's an opportunity for her to be a pasture pet or do therapy again.

Daring Dancer '18: A younger half-brother of Create Fearlessly, the 3-year-old homebred colt is an unraced son of Kitten's Joy who suffered a career-ending injury before he could make his debut. His claim to fame was winning The Equiery magazine's foal photo contest in 2018, with the August issue featuring a photo of him as a foal on the cover as he peeked through the farm's iconic white fence. "He's been here six months and he's got to stay in the stall another six probably, but hopefully he will be able to be ridden and should be fine," said Moorefield.

Dictate the Tempo: Purchased for \$330,000 as a yearling, the daughter of Dixie Union and Rosthern made six starts between 2009 and 2011 and won once before retiring to life as a broodmare. Of six foals, she produced two winners: Do You Like That (Flower Alley) and Knockout Punch (First Defence). The 14-year-old had her last foal in 2018, a filly by Daredevil, who has yet to start.

Go Hard: A stoic chestnut with a kind eye, the 7-year-old son of Candy Ride (Arg) and Understated was purchased for \$150,000 as a yearling, but struggled with balance issues while in training, which prevented him from making it to the races. "We think it's something neurologic, it's in the back-end," said Brooks. "He has really good days and he has some days that aren't as good. It's not dramatic, obviously, but they never could give us a definitive diagnosis and they kind of said just go on with him." The gelding was part of the Saratoga WarHorse program, a veteran-run, nonprofit at the Baltimore County Ag Center that serves military veterans and service members living with post-traumatic stress, for nearly a year. He returned to Sagamore once the round pen work became too much for him.

Mildlyoutofcontrol: An unraced 8-year-old homebred by Uncle Mo out of Tizthen, is part of a three-gelding herd known by the staff as "The Three Stooges." Pasture mate **Possibly Terrific**, a one-time starter purchased for \$90,000 as a yearling, will join the Saratoga

WarHorse program in the spring. The 7-year-old gelding is a son of Flatter out of Carolina Light. Rounding out the trio is **Youngin' Fearless**, a 6-year-old gelding by Flatter out of Madoffwiththecash, who made his debut in October 2018 but was pulled up in his second start. The \$210,000 yearling purchase has recovered from a bowed tendon in his left front and is ready to be restarted under saddle for his new career.

One Ninety Nine: Standing just under 17 hands, the 6-year-old gelding by Violence out of Lady Zeva ironically lives as low man on the totem pole in the pasture he shares with the smaller Create Fearlessly. Purchased for \$310,000 as a 2-year-old, he bowed a tendon before he could start but should have no limitations. "He's kind of grumpy, but he won't attack you," said Brooks. "And he's beautiful obviously."

Rickhouse: Making 22 starts between 2017 and 2020, the gelding by Colonel John out of Lucky Lady retired with two wins and two thirds. Sold to Sagamore for \$160,000 as a 2-year-old, he's ready for a new home with the right person.

Thousandyardstare: Sagamore purchased Evening Sky (Jpn), pregnant with Thousandyardstare (Empire Maker), for \$335,000 at the 2015 January Keeneland sale. Born in Kentucky right after the sale, the homebred made one start last year and earned \$300. "He ran in the same race Camp Randall won, they ran as an entry, and this one fell to his face coming out of the gate, trailed his field, made a little run and beat a couple horses and then Covid-19 hit. He was sound, but he wasn't moving well, so they brought him home," said Moorefield. The team thinks he'd excel over cross country, or really anything someone trained him to do, based on his easy way of going and ability to "float over the ground."

Tizthen: The stakes-placed daughter of Tiznow produced seven foals for Sagamore, including Mildlyoutofcontrol. Stakes-placed Tizgale (Stormy Atlantic) and Global Citizen (To Honor and Serve) are two of her five winning starters. She produced her last foal in 2017, a filly by Friesan Fire, who sold for \$9,000 at the 2020 Fasig-Tipton December mixed sale. Sagamore will be 17-year-old Tizthen's forever home.

Norm: The farm's retired teaser rounds out the resident roster. Though he lives in a paddock by himself, he enjoys the company of the three retired broodmares across the driveway.

Since visiting the farm mid-January, two of Sagamore's retired racehorses were rehomed. **Camp Randall** (Shackelford) made his final start last March, had spent most of his time at the farm last year and returned as a retiree in December. The \$240,000 yearling purchase won twice from four starts and will take on a new career as a show horse. **Fork Union** (Lea) was purchased for \$200,000 as a yearling and failed to break his maiden in four starts. Making his final start last May, the 4-year-old will try foxhunting in his new home.

Hercules was the exception to the Thoroughbred-only 'rule'. The white draft horse served as a member of Baltimore Police Department's Mounted Unit before retiring to Sagamore in 2018. The first horse Moorefield would check on in the morning, Hercules had a statuesque presence, a handsomely long forelock, and towered over the classic four-board white fence as a neighbor of "The Three Stooges." The farm's beloved ambassador died Feb. 20 after a long battle due to complications from melanoma. He will be buried on the farm.

For more email info@sagamorefarm.com or visit sagamorefarm.com/next-move.

cial horses Moorefield foaled and raised.

"I never had kids, but I can't imagine being any more proud of a son or daughter," said Moorefield. "The night Sharing won the Breeders' Cup, I was crying—my husband thought I was going to hurt myself, and then I was trying to call [Jocelyn], she was trying to call me."

Well versed in all aspects of the Thoroughbred industry, Moorefield understands better than anyone that change is a given. But there are still horses

on the farm, which means she still has a job.

"We're busy, we're busy all day," she said. "And we take care of all of them like they're worth a million dollars and we do things right."

Though a small herd of retirees may seem like child's play when compared to a farm filled with weanlings, yearlings, broodmares and young racehorses, the group keeps the staff plenty occupied. The numbers changed, but Moorefield's commitment never wavers. She'll continue to take

care of the horses, alongside grooms Alfredo Martinez, Jose Vega and Quezada Valente.

"The fact that the whole team, we're all still here, means a lot. And we really are a team," said Moorefield. "[Sagamore has] been such a big part of my life. Meeting my husband here, the fact that we've been able to make a marriage work for 36 years, and I've spent more than half my life here, or half of it. I've learned how to be a good human being, not just somebody that's good with horses."

Jocelyn

For nearly five years, Brooks asked to be a hotwalker for one of Sagamore's horses on a race day. She'd been turned down, until last year, when the Covid-19 pandemic increased restrictions at the tracks, and limited available personnel. She finally got her chance to travel with Global Campaign, heading to Saratoga for the Woodward-G1 and Keeneland for the Breeders' Cup Classic-G1.

Beside the colt in the winner's circle after the Woodward, Sagamore's chief of staff managed to plant a kiss on his sweaty forehead. The sentiment was just a tiny reflection of Brooks' devotion to Sagamore's horses and people.

"I used to go to literally every race at Laurel, unless there was some circumstance I couldn't get there, I'd go to all of them. I loved seeing them run, I loved seeing our barn team. When we had a string at Laurel, I would go there at least one morning a week," said Brooks. "I miss racing because I still would probably go and see some of our horses, even though they aren't with us, but we can't go now."

Born in New York, Brooks grew up in Towson, Md., and picked up riding at a young age. Her love of horses stuck with her as she earned a bachelor's degree in public relations, marketing and sports marketing at Towson University and later worked in event planning. After spending time handling marketing and client relations at the Pet+ER emergency veterinary facility in Towson, Brooks stumbled upon an opening at Under Armour and reached out to a friend who worked there.

"She said, 'I don't think you'd love that one but if something cool pops up I'll let you know,'" Brooks said. "That same day she said, 'You're never going to believe this. They're looking for someone at the farm to support the new president and I thought of you right away.'"

Brooks joined Sagamore Racing full-time in 2015. Her title encompassed a wide



Jocelyn Brooks visits with the eager-for-treats Go Hard. Below (from left) Mildlyoutofcontrol, Youngin' Fearless and Possibly Terrific patiently await their daily goodies.



range of responsibilities, which only increased as she learned more about the industry, though her main purpose was to support farm president Hunter Rankin and the rest of the team. Whether it was handling issues at the farm, attending sales, traveling to races, sitting in on breeding meetings or overseeing events and tours at the farm, Brooks has had a hand in it, all the while absorbing the history of the farm and Plank's contributions to it.

And by the way her eyes light up, anyone can tell how important the experience has been.

"I had never been around babies and yearlings and I think that was a really special thing, to get to know a horse from baby through racehorse, so that first for me was really, really incredible. And it's just something I never knew I'd get to be a part of," said Brooks. "Like I can't believe I'm drying off a baby horse and now it's a racehorse. It seems so small, and you get to see them every day and watch them grow up and see their personalities, so that part's been really, really cool."

Graded stakes winner Recruiting Ready, purchased

by Sagamore as a 2-year-old, holds a special place.

"We named him Recruiting Ready because it was a mantra of the farm, [for] the grounds team. We wanted the farm to be recruiting ready, like no matter who's showing up today, we don't know who it's going to be, the farm was going to be recruiting ready. The grounds team all has shirts that say 'Recruiting Ready,' so his first race the whole team came," said Brooks. "He was just very special to the farm and he had the coolest personality, so he is just one who was really special."

Recruiting Ready sits just below Shared Account and Global Campaign on Sagamore Farm's list of earners with \$823,189 after winning or placing in 13 stakes, six graded. No win stands out more than the 2017 Chick Lang at Pimlico on Preakness Day, as Plank hosted his party in the Under Armour tent on the infield.

"I still have his glue-on shoe on my desk, and if you watch that replay you can see [jockey Horacio] Karamanos point at the Under Armour tent as he goes by the finish line, and we're all screaming and hollering," said Brooks. "To us, to give Kevin a win on

that big day and for this horse that's so special to do it, I have never gotten over it. We all want the horses to run well for him and to make him proud, and to win a stake on Preakness Day, it doesn't get much better than that."

Any conversation about Sagamore greats starts with Sharing and her dam, but the former's older sister Riley's Choice, a stakes-winning homebred by Distorted Humor, stands out too. Other memories traced back to various Maryland Pride Days at Laurel, where homebreds Ginger N Rye and De Marquee each won a race in 2015 and Where Paradise Lay, a son of homebred Walkwithapurpose, won the Star de Naskra Stakes in 2019.

Over the past few years things changed as Sagamore downsized, with horses sold, retired or claimed away. And when Plank announced the change, the staff was shocked, but ultimately understood.

"I was obviously super sad to lose the horses, not that any were going somewhere bad, but you love them, they're your kids," said Brooks. "I think a lot of people, they've been in this business long enough that they've seen it happen a lot, and it's not un-

common at all. So not that it doesn't hurt, but they know this is how it works. One day you have the horses, and then you don't.

"Everyone completely understood, and knew from the beginning that everything's going to be fine, but it just took a minute to get over the initial [shock]. I love racing, we all do, but that's a good thing that you love it so much that it's hard to imagine a life without it I guess."

The team finds solace in being able to stay on and be a part of the community, while also following their foals for years to come. Brooks knows her role will change, but she continues to share life on the farm with fans through social media while focusing on the horses, particularly those that have the chance to be rehomed.

Through its Next Move program, Sagamore works to determine the next steps for retirees. Those able to go on to new careers are given downtime before being retrained and rehomed, or they're adopted out without post-track training to qualified owners as candidates for the Retired Racehorse Project's Thoroughbred Makeover. Some aren't sound enough or have other



Hercules, the farm's lone non-Thoroughbred and ambassador, was a retired police horse who lived out his days on the farm. He died Feb. 20.



Despite much of the farm being turned over to rye and corn crops for the distillery, Sagamore retirees Thousandyardstare, Rickhouse and Go Hard enjoy ample pasture and the best of care.

limitations that prevent them from riding careers, so they'll spend the rest of their lives on the farm or be rehomed as pets/companions.

Nuno Santos, an exercise rider turned off-track Thoroughbred trainer, retrains Sagamore's horses and helps find them homes. Perpetual Optimism, purchased for \$130,000 as a 2-year-old, went through the Next Move program in 2016 and was adopted by Brooks in 2017. The 9-year-old First Defence gelding failed to win his five starts on the track, but enjoys his new career as an eventer.

"It's a beautiful horse farm, with beautiful pasture, and great people and great facilities and I think it's important that it has horses. I think [Sagamore] Spirit is going to be using this farm a lot and I think the horse part of our story is so important," said Brooks. "Kevin wants there to be life on the farm, he wants there to be horses and cats and people, that's what it should be, it shouldn't just be empty. He wants it to have a heartbeat and have activity. Some of these horses are so good, so hopefully when things are back to normal, people will be desperate to get out and this can be a getaway, which is what it should be."

Hunter

When Rankin talks about his time overseeing the Plank's breeding and racing operation, the conversation always leads to his team of employees.

"One great thing about when I came here was that we had a really, really good team of people already, so I didn't have to make any changes in that. The nucleus of people was here, the buy-in from the team was here, and they were a very dedicated group of people. Most of the people that were here when I got here are still here," said Rankin. "I'd probably be most proud that, our team did this and accom-

plished what we accomplished, together. It made the wins more special and it made the losses harder, because you win or lose together."

For the team's leader, the opportunity revealed itself in a time when he needed it.

Though he grew up on his parents' Upson Downs Farm in Goshen, Ky., and spent years going to Churchill Downs, Rankin turned away from his roots in the Thoroughbred industry as he received a degree in journalism and public relations at the University of North Carolina and later worked for an insurance company.

The sudden death of his brother in 2012 prompted self-reflection and change, inspiring Rankin to reach out to Plank, who later recruited him to work at his real estate company Sagamore Development. But a year and a half later, the Thoroughbred industry called him back.

"It was actually not an easy decision. Though I still loved the Thoroughbred industry and all of that, I didn't really know what I was going to do. But I ended up taking it. I've been here for five and a half years I guess and it's been the greatest professional time of my life," said Rankin. "To be responsible for a brand in horse racing that is so important and so special in history, and then trying to build on that history and trying to build something of our own, it was just an awesome experience. Working for Kevin, who has been not only a great friend but a great boss and a great mentor, it's truly been the best time of my life."

Rankin recruited veteran trainer Stanley Hough as an advisor and racing manager, along with his assistant Laz Cruz, while also working with Maryland-based trainer Horacio DePaz.

The team campaigned South Bend, purchased for \$70,000 as a 2-year-old, who won the 2019 Street Sense Stakes and placed in three others as he earned

\$325,114. He Hate Me won the 2017 Tremont Stakes and earned \$323,185. Other notables included stakes-placed homebreds All I Karabout and Chubby Star.

Sagamore saved one of the best for last. Purchased for \$250,000 as a yearling and owned in partnership with WinStar, Global Campaign earned \$1,321,080 as he won the Woodward, Monmouth Cup-G3 and Peter Pan-G3 while placing in the Breeders' Cup Classic and Jim Dandy-G2. He retired with six wins from 10 starts in 2019 and 2020.

"The Woodward was really, really special. Winning a race like that, when you go through the history of that race and who won it over time, it's a really important and special race," said Rankin. "You fall in love with [the horses] for different reasons obviously—him it was just his supreme talent."

Back in Maryland, Plank, Rankin and the rest of the team are trying to sort out the future for the farm, outside of serving as a resource for Sagamore Spirit. The barns and training track will remain untouched, as will a majority of the property, though some of the original fencing will be taken down and stored as land is prepped and converted to grow crops. The farm's maintenance crew will continue working to keep the property in shape.

"The horses aren't going away. Maybe down the road we'll figure out a use for the racetrack too, but it's going to be there, it's a part of this farm. I know Kevin looks at it that way," said Rankin. "We still want to make sure the community has access to this place. It's such a landmark in the state of Maryland and a landmark especially for the local community, so I know Kevin wants to make sure that the people can see it, be a part of it, so we're looking at those ideas."

"We don't have anything totally ironed out yet, but we've done tours in the past and things like that. Obviously they'll be different without racehorses here but we're looking at a lot of different things to make sure it's still special."

The end of Sagamore's breeding and racing operation also meant the end of Rankin's journey, though he plans to stay connected with Plank. Churchill Downs Incorporated announced that he had been hired as the senior director of racing for them in late February.

"The next chapter of Sagamore is going to be this, but this place has had many chapters and there will be more beyond it, so you never know what will happen down the road," said Rankin. "We have no plans to [race again] currently but I hope that the last chapter of Sagamore Racing has not been written."



MARYLAND FOAL REPORT

ANOTHER COUGAR, by With Distinction, b.f., Feb. 27, by Madefromlucky. Maria M. Haire.

ANTOANETA, by Skipshot, b.f., Jan. 12, by Oscar Performance. Big Lick Farm.

AWESOME ELLE, by Awesome Again, ch.f., Feb. 11, by Mendelssohn. The Elkstone Group. Mare to Bernardini.

BALANSENSE, by Street Sense, dk.b./br.f., Feb. 13, by Alliance. Barlar, LLC. Mare to Alliance.

BELLE VLADA (IRE), by Kheleyf, b.f., Feb. 7, by Central Banker. Robert and Mary Atkinson.

BEN'S GIRL, by Here Comes Ben, b.c., Feb. 9, by Mosler. Carl Lanier.

CALLA LUNA, by Cape Blanco (Ire), uk.f., Feb. 27, by Holy Boss. Mezza Luna Farm LLC.

CASUAL KISS, by Dehere, b.c., Feb. 27, by Blofeld. Thornmar and Tim Keefe. Mare to Lord Nelson.

CHEROKEE SKY, by Sky Mesa, b.f., Feb. 3, by Golden Lad. Horseshoe Valley Equine Center.

CLEVER ME, by Not For Love, ch.f., Feb. 2, by Golden Lad. Amy H. Daney Bloodstock. Mare to Midshipman.

CLOSE THE GAP, by Lemon Drop Kid, ch.f., Feb. 1, by Madefromlucky. Somewhere Stables KY, LLC.

CONGRATSTOMYWIFE, by Congrats, b.f., Feb. 10, by Irish War Cry. Stephen Ferguson.

CURLIN'S FOX, by Curlin, dk.b./br.f., Feb. 19, by Uncle Mo. The Elkstone Group. Mare to Medaglia d'Oro.

DEVOUT DIVA, by Holy Bull, b.c., Feb. 12, by Irish War Cry. Brian McClay.

DOUBLE FIRST, by Majestic Warrior, ch.c., Feb. 15, by Alternation. Thornmar. Mare to Holy Boss.

ECLIPTICALSROSETTE, by Storm Wolf, ch.c., Jan. 7, by Hoppertunity. Maria M. Haire.

E DUBAI'S HUMOR, by E Dubai, b.c., Jan. 26, by Friesan Fire. Randy Ridgely. Mare to Divining Rod.

FOREVERINMYHEART, by Roman Ruler, b.c., Feb. 18, by Great Notion. Thornmar. Mare to Great Notion.

GIDDY, by Northern Afleet, ch.f., Feb. 28, by Hoppertunity. Thornmar. Mare to Bourbon Courage.

GREAT CRAIC, by Bullsbay, ch.c., Jan. 11, by Audible. Thomas J.

Rooney. Mare to Distorted Humor.

GREEN WAVE GIRL, by Bowman's Band, b.f., Feb. 16, by Madefromlucky. David DiPietro.

HARBOR LADY, by Shanghai Bobby, b.f., Jan. 26, by St Patrick's Day. Maria M. Haire.

HAY DILLY, by Candy Ride (Arg), ch.f., Jan. 4, by Arrogate. Timothy J. Rooney.

HELLO NOW, by Tiznow, b.f., Feb. 10, by Golden Lad. Holly House Farm.

KAWFEE FA MARFA, by Hard Spun, b.c., Feb. 21, by Demarchelier (GB). The Elkstone Group. Mare to English Channel.

LAURA'S MOON, by Malibu Moon, b.f., Jan. 24, by Mosler. Country Life Farm/Stone LLC. Mare to Mosler.



Outwithbigdaddy's Imagining filly has lots of friends at No Guts No Glory Farm.



Golden Lad—Onearmedbandit colt is a half-brother to \$782,655-earner Anna's Bandit.



Marathon Farms is the breeder of Lionheart Champion's Paynter colt.



Enjoying a chance to stretch their legs are Hello Now and her Golden Lad filly, a full sister to five-time stakes winner Hello Beautiful and half to 2021 3-year-old stakes winner Hello Hot Rod.



Tom and Chris Bowman and Milton P. Higgins' Bernardini—Dynamic Deputy filly is a half-sister to three stakes horses.



Frosted filly out of stakes producer Irina Baranova was bred by the Bowmans, Milton Higgins and Michael Bishop.

Sara Gordon

Sara Gordon

Lydia A. Williams (4)

LEVEL WITH ME, by Rock Slide, ch.f., Feb. 6, by Uncle Lino. Michael J. Harrison DVM. Mare to Uncle Lino.

LIONHEART CHAMPION, by Lion Heart, dk.b./br.c., Feb. 21, by Paynter. Marathon Farms. Mare to Wicked Strong.

LITTLE MISS JONES, by Smarty Jones, b.f., Feb. 14, by Irish War Cry. Nancy Lee Farms.

LIVING LEGACY, by Tapizar, ch.f., Feb. 18, by Not This Time. The Elkstone Group. Mare to First Samurai.

MADAM ALEX, by Not For Love, b.c., Jan. 27, by Blofeld. Thornmar. Mare to Friesan Fire.

MARGARITA SALT, by Salt Lake, dk.b./br.f., Feb. 1, by Midnight Storm. Maria M. Haire.

MARK ME SPECIAL, by Haymaker, dk.b./br.c., Feb. 13, by Golden Lad. Michael J. Harrison DVM. Mare to Bourbon Courage.

MISS FREEZE, by Frost Giant, dk.b./br.f., Jan. 27, by Audible. The Elkstone Group. Mare to Bernardini.

MISS MYSTIQUE, by Teuflesberg, ch.f., Jan. 25, by Catholic Boy. Country Life Farm and Miss Mystique LLC. Mare to Global Campaign.

MISS SWEETNESS, by Belong to Me, b.f., Jan. 27, by Great Notion. Robert and Mary Atkinson.

MISTY ON POINTE, by Munnings, b.c., Feb. 6, by World of Trouble. Thornmar. Mare to Divining Rod.

MOON STEPPER, by Lo Buckler, b.c., Feb. 20, by Madefromlucky. Quest Realty.

MUSELET, by Flatter, b.f., Jan. 28, by Algorithms. Thornmar. Mare to Mo Town.

NEW WAVE, by Tale of the Cat, gr./ro.f., Jan. 10, by Tonalist. Waldorf Racing Stables LLC.

NEYAMI, by Discreet Cat, ch.f., Jan. 28, by Friesan Fire. Bell Gable Stable. Mare to Uncle Lino.

NOT CONCERNED, by Curlin, b.c., Feb. 6, by Great Notion. Joseph Besecker.

OAKS VICTORIA, by Honour and Glory, b.f., Feb. 25, by Irish War Cry. Frederick T. Lewis Jr. DVM.

OL SANISH, by Curlin, b.c., Feb. 3, by Barbados. James B. Steele. Mare to Barbados.

ONEARMEDBANDIT, by No Armistice, b.c., Jan. 3, by Golden Lad. No Guts No Glory Farm.

OUR GIN MILL, by Go for Gin, ch.f., Feb. 22, by Kobe's Back. Bonita Farm. Mare to Alliance.

PAY THE LADY, by Not For Love, b.c., Feb. 21, by Race Day. Thornmar. Mare to Blofeld.

PIKACHU PRINCESS, by Redeemed, ch.f., Jan. 24, by Super Ninety Nine. Bell Gable Stable. Mare to Divining Rod.

PRINCESSOFTHE NILE, by Pioneer of the Nile, b.c., Feb. 4, by Alliance. Maria M. Haire.

QUEEN'S FATE, by Artie Schiller, b.c., Feb. 3, by Hoppertunity. Karmac Stables LLC.

SALISHAN, by Banker's Gold, dk.b./br.f., Feb. 18, by Astern (Aus). Vicky Schowe.

SHE'S FLATTERING, by Flatter, b.f., Feb. 16, by Keen Ice. Maria M. Haire.

SOMETHINGELSE, by Leroidesanimaux (Brz), ch.c., Feb. 18, by Accelerate. The Elkstone Group. Mare to Twirling Candy.

STARSOFTHE NILE, by Pioneer of the Nile, dk.b./br.f., Jan. 20, by Golden Lad. Maria M. Haire.

STORMY LOVE AFFAIR, by Stormy Atlantic, b.c., Feb. 25, by Madefromlucky. Waldorf Racing Stables LLC.

SUGAR SHACK, by Shackleford, ch.f., Jan. 29, by Free Drop Billy. Jim Stevenson. Mare to Divining Rod.

THAT'S EXCITING, by Neko Bay, ch.f., Feb. 12, by Race Day. Beatrice J. Patterson.

THINKCANDY, by Candy Ride (Arg), ch.f., Jan. 28, by Race Day. Jim Stevenson. Mare to Divining Rod.

THISDANSEISTAKEN, by Gators N Bears, b.f., Feb. 27, by Runhappy. The Elkstone Group. Mare to Global Campaign.

TIGERETTE, by Jump Start, ch.f., Feb. 5, by Mucho Macho Man. Clover Hill Farm Inc. Mare to Golden Lad.

WILD EYED, by Indian Charlie, b.c., Feb. 5, by Force the Pass. Thornmar. Mare to Maximus Mischief.

WILL DO, by Roman Ruler, b.c., Jan. 31, by Mosler. Bell Gable Stable. Mare to Mosler.



MARYLAND FUND REPORT

Bonuses paid for races at Maryland tracks
November 1 to December 31, 2020

Maryland Juvenile Filly Championship Stakes

December 5. Purse \$100,000-guaranteed. For 2-year-old fillies, registered Maryland-bred or Maryland sired. 7 fur. 9 competed. (Closed with 20 nominations.) Winner: STREET LUTE, by Street Magician. Breeder bonus: Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Dr. Brooke Bowman (\$8,250). Stallion bonus: R. Larry Johnson (\$2,748). Second: JUROR NUMBER FOUR, by Into Mischief. Breeder bonus: Classic Thoroughbred XXIX (\$2,750). Stallion bonus: None. Third: MAXINE'S TAP ROOM, by Bourbon Courage. Breeder bonus: Ronald Harris Parker (\$1,375). Stallion bonus: Bourbon Courage Syndicate (\$458).

Maryland Juvenile Futurity

December 5. Purse \$100,000-guaranteed. For 2-year-olds, registered Maryland-bred or Maryland sired. 7 fur. 7 competed. (Closed with 16 nominations.) Winner: JAXON TRAVELER, by Munnings. Breeder bonus: Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau (\$8,250). Stallion bonus: None. Second: SINGLINO, by Uncle Lino. Breeder bonus: Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC (\$2,750). Stallion bonus: None. Third: LATIN SPICE, by Buffum. Breeder bonus: Sergio Gomez (\$1,375). Stallion bonus: Buffum Syndicate (\$458).

Breeder bonuses

Linda L. Albert—MIT MAZEL: Nov. 7, 6th race, \$3,847.50.

Alberts Racing LLC—JOHNG: Nov. 26, 3rd race, \$1,417.50; Dec. 12, 4th race, \$742.50. (\$2,160)

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc.—HINTING: Dec. 27, 5th race, \$495. OLIVE'S BUMPA: Nov. 13, 2nd race, \$1,207.50. SOLEA: Nov. 20, 9th race, \$495; Dec. 20, 5th race, \$495. (\$2,692.50)

Angelinos Racing LLC—MAXIMUS MIDANI: Nov. 28, 1st race, \$3,135.

Robert Atkinson and Mary Atkinson—ORTINOLA: Nov. 8, 2nd race, \$522.50; Dec. 13, 8th race, \$1,207.50. (\$1,730)

Lorna L. Baker and Thomas H. Michaels Jr.—LAKI: Nov. 28, 6th race, \$2,750.

Barak Farm—DEEP RED: Nov. 8, 7th race, \$2,362.50. LECTRIC CHOKE: Nov. 5, 6th race, \$997.50; Nov. 15, 1st race, \$997.50; Dec. 20,

2nd race, \$2,707.50. NINE MARTINIS: Dec. 12, 3rd race, \$577.50. STROLL SMOKIN: Nov. 19, 8th race, \$2,362.50; Dec. 19, 8th race, \$6,412.50. (\$16,417.50)

Barak Farm and Dinos Thoroughbreds LLC—BUCKEY'S CHARM: Nov. 6, 3rd race, \$2,205; Dec. 26, 3rd race, \$2,750. (\$4,955)

David Earl Baxter—HEMP: Dec. 18, 2nd race, \$907.50.

Patricia Beck and Richard C. Beck—LUDICROUS MODE: Nov. 28, 9th race, \$412.50.

Best Foot Forward LLC—ALL ABOUT AUDREY: Dec. 6, 6th race, \$495; Dec. 20, 5th race, \$945. (\$1,440)

David Benjamin Bloom—TYREEK: Nov. 14, 9th race, \$605.

Richard F. Blue Jr.—PRINCE PERE: Nov. 19, 7th race, \$907.50.

Bonita Farm—CALYPSO GHOST: Nov. 29, 4th race, \$2,137.50.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—MARKET MOVER: Nov. 26, 7th race, \$962.50. TOM TERRIFIC: Nov. 20, 1st race, \$495; Dec. 13, 2nd race, \$3,135. WORSTBESTIDEA EVER: Dec. 6, 1st race, \$495. (\$5,087.50)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Dr. Brooke Bowman—BOURBON AGOGO: Nov. 1, 8th race, \$495. MISS PHILLY DILLY: Nov. 12, 6th race, \$1,155; Dec. 12, 9th race, \$742.50. RAPIDASHQUEEN: Dec. 18, 3rd race, \$412.50. STREET LUTE: Nov. 14, 7th race, \$8,250; Dec. 5, 7th race, \$8,250; Dec. 26, 2nd race, \$8,250. (\$27,555)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Quin Bowman and Rebecca Davis—ALWAYSINAHURRY: Nov. 7, 5th race, \$5,985.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Ricky Buckley and Joshua Dreiband—DR. FERBER: Nov. 13, 7th race, \$907.50; Dec. 31, 2nd race, \$4,702.50. STEADY EDDIE: Dec. 10, 1st race, \$1,732.50. (\$7,342.50)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Rebecca Davis and Dr. Brooke Bowman—BURGESS: Dec. 10, 7th race, \$945.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Rebecca Davis and R. Larry Johnson—PETES PRIDE: Nov. 6, 4th race, \$787.50; Nov. 29, 4th race, \$412.50. (\$1,200)

Bowman and Higgins Stable—CONGRESS HALL: Nov. 27, 3rd race, \$412.50.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Shawn M. Howser—BOURBON WILDCAT: Nov. 15, 5th race, \$907.50; Dec. 6, 3rd race, \$1,732.50. (\$2,640)

Derek Brown—CHARLIE POTATOES: Nov. 12, 2nd race, \$1,155.

Buckingham Farm—I LOVE YOU: Nov. 19, 2nd race, \$1,102.50; Dec. 12, 3rd race, \$1,102.50. WOLFINBARGER: Dec. 18, 5th race, \$787.50. (\$2,992.50)

William Andrew Campbell—SEVEN ON THE ROCKS: Nov. 12, 3rd race, \$4,132.50.

CandyLand Farm—GALILEAN MOON: Nov. 6, 8th race, \$907.50; Dec. 19, 1st race, \$907.50. (\$1,815)

Abdul G. Chaudry—PITCHING ARI: Dec. 31, 1st race, \$3,277.50.

Foals Wanted

Send your foal reports and photographs of 2021 foals for inclusion on the Maryland Horse Breeders Association website and *The Maryland Horse* newsletter.

Email information to
cdeubler@marylandthoroughbred.com.

Or submit online at MarylandThoroughbred.com/foalreport.

Henry S. Clark III—GLENAR: Nov. 12, 7th race, \$2,137.50; Dec. 18, 5th race, \$2,137.50. (\$4,275)

Classic Thoroughbred XII—KISS THE GIRL: Nov. 27, 7th race, \$4,987.50; Dec. 18, 8th race, \$1,237.50. RUSSELDONINGTHINGS: Nov. 12, 8th race, \$4,987.50. (\$11,212.50)

Classic Thoroughbred XXIX—JUROR NUMBER FOUR: Nov. 6, 3rd race, \$5,985; Dec. 5, 7th race, \$2,750. (\$8,735)

Randy L. Cohen and Alyse L. Cohen—STAND MY GROUND: Dec. 3, 1st race, \$412.50; Dec. 19, 4th race, \$412.50. TOUGHEST OMBRE: Nov. 6, 1st race, \$825. (\$1,650)

Angela B. Coombs—GOLDEN MOON SHINE: Dec. 20, 6th race, \$945.

Cordelia Stables LLC—IMAGINE VICTORY: Dec. 12, 9th race, \$3,847.50.

Country Life Farm—ALOYSIUS LUCK: Dec. 10, 1st race, \$907.50; Dec. 31, 2nd race, \$907.50. TAPPAHANNOCK: Nov. 7, 1st race, \$997.50; Dec. 4, 1st race, \$522.50. (\$3,335)

Country Life Farm and Broken Trust Fund LLC—WICKED PRANKSTER: Dec. 18, 2nd race, \$4,702.50.

Country Life Farm and Fifteen Moons LLC—MOONSAFE: Nov. 28, 2nd race, \$907.50; Dec. 27, 1st race, \$907.50. (\$1,815)

Country Life Farm and Fleet and Fancy LLC—FORTYFIVEROCKET: Nov. 14, 4th race, \$1,207.50.

Country Life Farm, Friesian Fire Syndicate, Miller Thompson LLC and S. Nelson—GOODLUCK-JOHNATHAN: Nov. 21, 1st race, \$770.

Country Life Farm and Heather LLC—SWING YOUR SWORD: Dec. 6, 2nd race, \$742.50.

Country Life Farm and Imagistic LLC—MOSLER'S IMAGE: Dec. 19, 7th race, \$742.50.

Country Life Farm and Lawless Love LLC—BREEZE OFF THE BAY: Nov. 21, 4th race, \$1,575; Dec. 10, 8th race, \$2,205. (\$3,780)

Country Life Farm and Estate of Mildred Wilson—NATTY BEAU: Nov. 12, 2nd race, \$3,135.

Country Roads Ltd.—ISABELLA'S MAGIC: Dec. 5, 9th race, \$412.50. MEO DESPERADO: Nov. 5, 2nd race, \$412.50. ODDS ON: Nov. 13, 4th race, \$2,992.50; Dec. 4, 8th race, \$1,312.50; Dec. 19, 6th race, \$4,987.50. UTTERLY ENCHANTING: Dec. 12, 1st race, \$2,137.50. (\$12,255)

Crystal Park Stables Inc.—CAROLINA ICE: Nov. 1, 7th race, \$5,985.

Mike Dalton LLC—CONJECTURE: Nov. 8, 5th race, \$4,275; Dec. 3, 6th race, \$1,237.50. (\$5,512.50)

Dark Hollow Farm—HOT N SPICY LOVE: Dec. 6, 7th race, \$787.50. OXIDE: Nov. 29, 8th race, \$4,987.50; Dec. 20, 8th race, \$5,985. TAUBER: Nov. 12, 3rd race, \$797.50. (\$12,557.50)

Dark Hollow Farm and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Davidson—COMBAT QUEEN: Nov. 6, 7th race, \$962.50.

D. Hatman Thoroughbreds LLC—AUDACIOUS QUALITY: Nov. 14, 4th race, \$632.50.

Dr. Morgan Dove and Karin Wurttemberger—HALFINHEWRAPPER: Dec. 11, 9th race, \$3,277.50.

Dragon's Lair Farm LLC—BAPTIZE THE BOY: Dec. 19, 5th race, \$1,312.50.

The Elkstone Group LLC—CANTWAITTO-BEING: Nov. 1, 4th race, \$495. FULL DINNER JACKET: Nov. 19, 9th race, \$4,702.50. HIGHER PURPOSE: Dec. 4, 5th race, \$2,137.50. ONE LAST TRIAL: Dec. 19, 9th race, \$797.50. LIFE-SPAN: Nov. 29, 2nd race, \$945. PLOT THE DOTS: Nov. 15, 7th race, \$5,985; Dec. 10, 4th race, \$2,362.50. ROOF TOP BAR: Nov. 29, 9th race, \$495. THE QUANTICO KID: Nov. 14, 4th race, \$3,277.50; Dec. 20, 2nd race, \$522.50. (\$21,720)

Sam E. English II—BEYOND FOREVER: Nov. 22, 4th race, \$945.

Robert S. Evans—GALE: Nov. 5, 4th race, \$4,987.50. SPEED LANE: Nov. 5, 3rd race, \$1,600; Dec. 10, 5th race, \$1,732.50; Dec. 27, 3rd race, \$1,100. (\$4,432.50)

Joan Parker Everett—REDEEM EDDIE: Nov. 29, 8th race, \$1,837.50; Dec. 19, 6th race, \$1,837.50. (\$3,675)

Steve R. Ferguson—RAPID RESPONSE: Nov. 29, 5th race, \$907.50.

Fitzhugh LLC—ANOTHER BROAD: Dec. 26, 8th race, \$1,375. LOOKIN DYNAMIC: Nov. 20, 7th race, \$1,155. PALACE KID: Nov. 15, 2nd race, \$787.50. ROYAL NUMBER: Nov. 22, 7th race, \$2,205; Dec. 13, 7th race, \$1,155. WELLING: Nov. 14, 5th race, \$1,470; Dec. 20, 1st race, \$3,990. (\$12,137.50)

Paul L. Fowler Jr.—STARTING TOUR: Nov. 14, 6th race, \$2,137.50.

Paulette French for Morgan's Ford Farm—GOTT-AWAY: Dec. 3, 1st race, \$787.50; Dec. 19, 4th race, \$787.50. (\$1,575)

Scott C. Fuchs—NO FOOLING DUDE: Nov. 7, 3rd race, \$3,135.

Robert J. Gerczak—LITTLE BAY: Nov. 6, 5th race, \$2,565. MISS OLD BAY: Dec. 20, 5th race, \$2,565. (\$5,130)

Germania Farms Inc.—GALLINELLA: Nov. 15, 6th race, \$1,522.50; Dec. 4, 6th race, \$797.50. (\$2,320)

Glenangus Farm LLC—FAVOR MAKER: Dec. 10, 7th race, \$495. IRON PEARLS: Dec. 31, 2nd race, \$1,732.50. (\$2,227.50)

Sergio Gomez—LATIN SPICE: Dec. 5, 8th race, \$1,375.

William R. Gotwals—POLISHED GAL: Nov. 22, 6th race, \$2,137.50.

Sheryl Grant—SHE'S ALL COURAGE: Dec. 10, 3rd race, \$605.

Greenspring Mares LLC—NAUTICAL NATURE: Nov. 12, 8th race, \$1,837.50.

Terri Haupt—TALENTED DR. B: Dec. 5, 9th race, \$2,137.50.

Nancy B. Heil—KARAN'S NOTION: Nov. 19, 5th race, \$5,985; Dec. 19, 8th race, \$2,362.50. (\$8,347.50)

Heritage Stallions Inc.—SCARLET TANAGER: Dec. 12, 1st race, \$412.50.

Hickory Ridge Farm—CAREY TIMES: Dec. 19, 8th race, \$1,237.50.

Hillwood Stable LLC—BE GOOD: Nov. 15, 5th race, \$1,732.50; Dec. 3, 5th race, \$2,100. DREAM BIG DREAMS: Dec. 12, 5th race, \$2,100. HELLO BEAUTIFUL: Nov. 28, 5th race, \$8,250. HELLO HOT ROD: Nov. 13, 7th race, \$4,702.50; Dec. 13, 7th race, \$5,985. REASURED: Nov. 19, 9th race, \$1,732.50; Dec. 10, 1st race, \$4,702.50. (\$31,305)

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth C. Holt—QUEEN OF TOMORROW: Nov. 27, 7th race, \$1,837.50.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Holt, Theodore Montuori and Richard Palumbo—TATTOOED: Nov. 21, 6th race, \$2,362.50; Dec. 10, 4th race, \$1,237.50. (\$3,600)

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Holt and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Palumbo—LE WEEKEND: Dec. 19, 2nd race, \$825.

Ashley Grove Hopkins and Kristin Anne Diem—SUNDOG: Dec. 27, 9th race, \$907.50.

Kyle Horlacher—DOUBLE FIREBALL: Dec. 4, 2nd race, \$1,207.50.

Michael and Debbie Horning—GIMME'S GOLD-ENGIRL: Dec. 6, 3rd race, \$907.50; Dec. 27, 9th race, \$4,702.50. (\$5,610)

Ann B. Jackson—TACO SUPREME: Dec. 3, 7th race, \$6,697.50; Dec. 26, 6th race, \$2,750. (\$9,447.50)

R. Larry Johnson—DAY THE MUSIC DIED: Nov. 7, 7th race, \$2,137.50. DESPITE ODDS: Nov. 14, 9th race, \$1,155; Dec. 12, 4th race, \$1,417.50. KEEPER IN SPITE: Nov. 12, 1st race, \$605. NEVER ENOUGH TIME: Nov. 28, 3rd race, \$2,750. THUNDERIN THE VALLEY: Nov. 20, 9th race, \$945; Dec. 6, 6th race, \$945. (\$9,955)

R. Larry Johnson and Legacy Farm—GONE HOME: Nov. 1, 5th race, \$2,137.50.

Carol A. Kaye—AIR TOKEN: Nov. 7, 8th race, \$4,987.50; Nov. 28, 4th race, \$8,250; Dec. 13, 4th race, \$3,562.50. BACK CHARGE: Nov. 7, 9th race, \$605. MOONLIGHT SHADOW: Nov. 15, 3rd race, \$577.50. SMOKIN HOT FACTOR: Nov. 12, 7th race, \$412.50. (\$18,395)

Frankie Kline—MY MY GIRL: Dec. 6, 5th race, \$2,100.

Ioannis Korologos—COME AND GET ME: Dec. 31, 5th race, \$3,847.50.

Lady Olivia at North Cliff LLC—THEDUKE OF HAZZARD: Nov. 19, 3rd race, \$632.50.

Legacy Farm—DONTBAGGAGECHECK: Nov. 12, 5th race, \$2,137.50; Nov. 27, 3rd race, \$787.50. (\$2,925)

Kenneth F. Lowe Jr.—LITTLE MISS RAEALYN: Dec. 3, 6th race, \$6,412.50.

Ronald Manelski—WYE MUMBO: Nov. 26, 3rd race, \$3,847.50.

Estate of Robert T. Manfuso—CHAUFFEUR: Dec. 31, 5th race, \$1,417.50. FEATURE ACT: Nov. 1, 8th race, \$2,565; Nov. 14, 3rd race, \$2,137.50. (\$6,120)

Robert T. Manfuso and Katharine M. Voss—CHAMPAGNE TOAST: Nov. 22, 8th race, \$4,702.50. CORDMAKER: Nov. 28, 8th race, \$2,750; Dec. 26, 7th race, \$1,375. MCELMORE AVENUE: Nov. 6, 6th race, \$3,135; Nov. 21, 9th race, \$4,132.50; Dec. 11, 8th race, \$4,987.50. NOBLE WALK: Nov. 12, 3rd race, \$1,522.50. NO MORE TALK: Nov. 13, 4th race, \$1,102.50. (\$23,707.50)

Marathon Farm Inc.—ABUELO PAPS: Nov. 19, 5th race, \$1,155; Dec. 5, 6th race, \$2,205. CLOSER LOOK: Nov. 7, 8th race, \$1,837.50; Nov. 26, 7th race, \$4,987.50; Dec. 18, 4th race, \$5,985. DASHING LOU: Nov. 8, 6th race, \$2,137.50; Dec. 12, 8th race, \$945. WHIRLIN CURLIN: Nov. 8, 6th race, \$787.50; Dec. 18, 9th race, \$787.50. (\$20,827.50)

Daniel E. Marconi—GALERIO: Nov. 21, 6th race, \$6,412.50.

Mrs. J.W.V. Martin Jr.—TRIP TO FREEDOM: Nov. 19, 6th race, \$1,155.

William Meister and Julie Arbogast—ZEN PI: Nov. 19, 7th race, \$4,702.50; Dec. 10, 9th race, \$1,470; Dec. 31, 4th race, \$1,470. (\$7,642.50)

MOM Stable—WHAT THE FLASH: Dec. 20, 3rd race, \$742.50.

Kevin P. Morgan—FANCY PRINCESS: Nov. 12, 6th race, \$605; Dec. 27, 7th race, \$1,417.50. MANKLIN CREEK: Dec. 12, 2nd race, \$605; Dec. 19, 3rd race, \$495. MR. CHESAPEAKECITY: Dec. 12, 6th race, \$412.50. YESTERDAYS-PLAN: Nov. 1, 1st race, \$2,565; Nov. 19, 2nd race, \$2,992.50; Nov. 29, 1st race, \$3,562.50. (\$12,655)

Morgan's Ford Farm—NICOLAR: Dec. 19, 7th race, \$1,417.50.

Audrey R. Murray—PAY THE KID: Dec. 10, 7th race, \$2,565. PETION LASS: Nov. 14, 6th race, \$787.50; Dec. 10, 2nd race, \$787.50; Dec. 26, 9th race, \$787.50. WOWWHATABRAT: Dec. 11, 2nd race, \$945. (\$5,872.50)

Nancy Lee Farms—SING A VERSE: Nov. 15, 2nd race, \$2,137.50.

Leo Nechamkin and Dennis Jankiewicz—BALTIMORE BUD: Dec. 5, 1st race, \$605.

Ronald Harris Parker—MARVELLA NASTY: Nov. 21, 5th race, \$1,100; Dec. 10, 5th race, \$4,702.50. MAXINE'S TAP ROOM: Dec. 5, 7th race, \$1,375. (\$7,177.50)

Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau—JAXON TRAVELER: Dec. 5, 8th race, \$8,250.

Avla R. Pitts—ALWAYSINMOTION: Nov. 22, 8th race, \$1,732.50.

Carolyn Rainbow, Samuel H. Rogers and Susan R. Parks—IN CLASS: Nov. 8, 4th race, \$2,137.50; Dec. 13, 6th race, \$787.50. (\$2,925)

R.D.M. Racing Stable—WHATS THE CHANCES: Nov. 21, 3rd race, \$2,565.

Charles J. Reed and Michael Zanella—PATRIOTIC PUNCH: Nov. 1, 7th race, \$2,205; Dec. 31, 8th race, \$2,205. (\$4,410)

Dr. and Mrs. Richard Reveley—S W BRIAR ROSE: Nov. 15, 4th race, \$1,292.50; Dec. 5, 4th race, \$2,467.50. (\$3,760)

Darci Rice—HAD THE NOTION: Nov. 29, 3rd race, \$3,135.

Roland Farm—SEVILLA SANGRIA: Nov. 12, 6th race, \$3,135.

Timothy J. Rooney—MISCIEFS MODEL: Nov. 28, 2nd race, \$4,702.50. PROMENADE PRINCESS: Dec. 6, 1st race, \$945; Dec. 20, 7th race, \$495. SEANY P: Nov. 27, 8th race, \$825. WONDERWALL: Dec. 19, 7th race, \$3,847.50. (\$10,815)

Alexandro Rubim-Dias—AWARD WANTED: Dec. 18, 1st race, \$605.

Sagamore Farm LLC—BRING ME ANSWERS: Nov. 19, 2nd race, \$577.50; Dec. 10, 2nd race, \$412.50; Dec. 27, 6th race, \$787.50. HARPERS FIRST RIDE: Nov. 28, 8th race, \$8,250; Dec. 26, 7th race, \$8,250. POLISHED COPPER: Nov. 6, 4th race, \$412.50; Dec. 3, 2nd race, \$2,707.50. RYE STREET: Nov. 27, 9th race, \$495. START WITH YES: Dec. 31, 6th race, \$412.50. YOUNGEST OF FIVE: Dec. 11, 8th race, \$962.50. (\$23,267.50)

M. Terry Shane—MARGIE'S HEAVEN: Dec. 3, 3rd race, \$1,470.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton A. Smith—STONE COURAGEOUS: Nov. 21, 6th race, \$1,237.50.

Hamilton Smith, Fred Greene Jr. and Deborah Greene—THE POSER: Nov. 7, 8th race, \$962.50; Nov. 29, 8th race, \$962.50. (\$1,925)

Matt Spencer and Kelly Cox—AINT DA BEER COLD: Nov. 22, 7th race, \$5,985; Dec. 26, 4th race, \$2,750. (\$8,735)

Spendthrift Farm LLC—BE BOP A LOLA: Nov. 29, 3rd race, \$1,155. CONFESSOR: Dec. 27, 8th race, \$4,275. HALL PASS: Nov. 20, 8th race, \$6,697.50. (\$12,127.50)

John D. Stuart—BELFOUR: Dec. 31, 9th race, \$2,565.

Sweet Spirits Stables LLC—FILLE D'ESPRIT: Nov. 6, 7th race, \$4,987.50; Nov. 21, 7th race, \$5,985; Dec. 18, 8th race, \$6,412.50. (\$17,385)

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC—BOUND FOR BROADWAY: Nov. 22, 1st race, \$3,847.50. DOUBLESEVEN: Nov. 7, 5th race, \$1,155. GIRLS LOVE ME: Nov. 6, 1st race, \$1,575; Dec. 19, 5th race, \$3,562.50. PAISLEY SINGING: Nov. 26, 1st race, \$1,207.50. SINGLO: Dec. 5, 8th race, \$2,750; Dec. 26, 1st race, \$1,375. STICKINGTOGETHER: Nov. 5, 4th race, \$1,837.50. (\$17,310)

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC and Ellen Charles—CLOSETOTHEHEART: Dec. 27, 1st race, \$1,732.50. HEARTFUL: Nov. 12, 4th race, \$1,732.50. (\$3,465)

Thomas L. Teal—PUNK ROCK PRINCESS: Nov. 13, 2nd race, \$632.50; Dec. 3, 2nd race, \$522.50. (\$1,155)

Thornmar Farm LLC—COCONUT CAKE: Dec. 3, 6th race, \$2,362.50; Dec. 31, 7th race, \$6,412.50. NOBODY KNEW: Dec. 11, 3rd race, \$2,205. ROYAL THUNDER: Nov. 14, 5th race, \$770; Dec. 4, 3rd race, \$1,120; Dec. 31, 4th race, \$770. STARTWITHABANG: Nov. 1, 2nd race, \$2,100. THE WOLFMAN: Nov. 29, 5th race, \$4,702.50. YES MEANS NO: Nov. 29, 2nd race, \$495. (\$20,937.50)

Thornmar Farm and Colleen Torsney—KEEP-YOURSKATESON: Nov. 13, 5th race, \$1,417.50; Dec. 13, 5th race, \$907.50. THATWOULDBE-GRAND: Nov. 6, 2nd race, \$632.50. (\$2,957.50)

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Thurston—TRUE SHIPMAN: Nov. 6, 5th race, \$495; Nov. 21, 3rd race, \$945; Dec. 27, 5th race, \$2,565. (\$4,005)

Mark Toothaker and Dan White—GREASED-LIGHTNING: Nov. 22, 2nd race, \$2,137.50.

Two Legends Farm—BENANDJOE: Nov. 5, 6th race, \$2,707.50; Nov. 26, 7th race, \$1,837.50; Dec. 11, 8th race, \$1,837.50. (\$6,382.50)

Walter N. Vieser II—ALL THREE: Nov. 13, 7th race, \$1,732.50. ITALIAN DRESSING: Dec. 10, 3rd race, \$1,155. (\$2,887.50)

Robert S. Vukelic—CROUCHELLI: Dec. 3, 4th race, \$1,155.

David H. Wade—WHERESHETOLDMETOGO: Nov. 28, 6th race, \$8,250; Dec. 26, 6th race, \$8,250. (\$16,500)

Susan Wantz—IN THE TOP TEN: Nov. 19, 9th race, \$907.50.

Janet L. Wayson—OUTSIDE THE BOX: Nov. 5, 6th race, \$522.50.

Konrad M. Wayson—BEAR FORCE WON: Nov. 7, 3rd race, \$1,155; Nov. 27, 1st race, \$3,135. (\$4,290)

Donald Clifford Wilson—GRACE N FAVOR: Dec. 3, 8th race, \$605.

Winding Creek Farm—WHISKEY AND YOU: Nov. 12, 8th race, \$962.50; Dec. 19, 6th race, \$962.50. (\$1,925)

Mrs. Frank P. Wright—GRACE ISABELLA: Dec. 12, 3rd race, \$2,992.50. SARAH'S TREASURE: Nov. 5, 7th race, \$2,205; Nov. 27, 7th race, \$962.50; Dec. 31, 8th race, \$1,155. (\$7,315)

Virginia Wright, Mary Jones and Robin L. Graham—BRIGHTWOOD: Nov. 13, 9th race, \$945. Linda L. Zang—LEWISFIELD: Nov. 13, 6th race, \$6,697.50.

ZWP Stable and Non Stop Stable—GOLD FINCH: Nov. 13, 3rd race, \$1,100. MALIBU BEAUTY: Dec. 13, 5th race, \$4,702.50. STEADY LOVE: Nov. 5, 4th race, \$962.50. (\$6,765)

Stallion bonuses

BALTIMORE BOB (Baltimore Bud: Dec. 5, 1st race, \$201.59. John: Nov. 26, 3rd race, \$472.31;

Dec. 12, 4th race, \$247.40. Little Bay: Nov. 6, 5th race, \$854.66): Robert Gerczak—\$1,775.96.

BANDBOX (Baptize the Boy: Dec. 19, 5th race, \$437.33. Bear Force Won: Nov. 7, 3rd race, \$384.85; Nov. 27, 1st race, \$1,044.58. Be Good: Nov. 15, 5th race, \$577.27; Dec. 3, 5th race, \$699.72. Coconut Cake: Dec. 3, 6th race, \$787.19; Dec. 31, 7th race, \$2,136.65. Dream Big Dreams: Dec. 12, 5th race, \$699.72. Heartful: Nov. 12, 4th race, \$577.27. In Class: Nov. 8, 4th race, \$712.22; Dec. 13, 6th race, \$262.40.

Mankin Creek: Dec. 12, 2nd race, \$201.59; Dec. 19, 3rd race, \$164.93. Outside the Box: Nov. 5, 6th race, \$174.10. Queen of Tomorrow: Nov. 27, 7th race, \$612.26. Reassured: Nov. 19, 9th race, \$577.27; Dec. 10, 1st race, \$1,566.87. The Poser: Nov. 7, 8th race, \$320.71; Nov. 29, 8th race, \$320.71. The Wolfman: Nov. 29, 5th race, \$1,566.87): Bandbox Syndicate—\$13,824.51.

BOURBON COURAGE (Bourbon Agogo: Nov. 1, 8th race, \$164.93. Bourbon Wildcat: Nov. 15, 5th race, \$302.38; Dec. 6, 3rd race, \$577.27. Marvella Nasty: Nov. 21, 5th race, \$366.52; Dec. 10, 5th race, \$1,566.87. Maxine's Tap Room: Dec. 5, 7th race, \$458. Olive's Bump: Nov. 13, 2nd race, \$402.34. Punk Rock Princess: Nov. 13, 2nd race, \$210.75; Dec. 3, 2nd race, \$174.10. She's All Courage: Dec. 10, 3rd race, \$201.59. Stone Courageous: Nov. 21, 6th race, \$412.34. Theduke of Hazzard: Nov. 19, 3rd race, \$210.75. What the Flash: Dec. 20, 3rd race, \$247.40. Worstbestideaever: Dec. 6, 1st race, \$164.93): Bourbon Courage Syndicate—\$5,460.17.

BUFFUM (Cantwaittobeking: Nov. 1, 4th race, \$164.93. Come and Get Me: Dec. 31, 5th race, \$1,281.99. Fancy Princess: Nov. 12, 6th race, \$201.59; Dec. 27, 7th race, \$472.31. Latin Spice: Dec. 5, 8th race, \$458. Malibu Beauty: Dec. 13, 5th race, \$1,566.87. Starting Tour: Nov. 14, 6th race, \$712.22. Steady Love: Nov. 5, 4th race, \$320.71): Buffum Syndicate—\$5,178.62.

CUBA (Laki: Nov. 28, 6th race, \$916): J&S Stables, LLC.

DESPITE THE ODDS (Despite Odds: Nov. 14, 9th race, \$384.85; Dec. 12, 4th race, \$472.31. Gone Home: Nov. 1, 5th race, \$712.22. Keeper in Spite: Nov. 12, 1st race, \$201.59. Meo Desperado: Nov. 5, 2nd race, \$137.45. Mr. Chesapeakecity: Dec. 12, 6th race, \$137.45. Odds On: Nov. 13, 4th race, \$997.10; Dec. 4, 8th race, \$437.33; Dec. 19, 6th race, \$1,661.84. Petes Pride: Nov. 6, 4th race, \$262.40; Nov. 29, 4th race, \$137.45. Scarlet Tanager: Dec. 12, 1st race, \$137.45. S Utterly Enchanting: Dec. 12, 1st race, \$712.22. Whats the Chances: Nov. 21, 3rd race, \$854.66): R. Larry Johnson—\$7,246.32.

ETCHED (Calypso Ghost: Nov. 29, 4th race, \$712.22. Tattooed: Nov. 21, 6th race, \$787.19; Dec. 10, 4th race, \$412.34): Bonita Farm Stallion Partnership—\$1,911.75.

FREEDOM CHILD (Ain't Da Beer Cold: Nov. 22, 7th race, \$1,994.20; Dec. 26, 4th race, \$916. Confessor: Dec. 27, 8th race, \$1,424.43. Glen-gar: Nov. 12, 7th race, \$712.22; Dec. 18, 5th race, \$712.22. Hall Pass: Nov. 20, 8th race, \$2,231.61. Mit Mazel: Nov. 7, 6th race, \$1,281.99. Tom Terrific: Nov. 20, 1st race, \$164.93; Dec. 13, 2nd race, \$1,044.58. Trip to Freedom: Nov. 19, 6th race, \$384.85): Freedom Child Syndicate—\$10,867.03.

FRIESAN FIRE (Gallinella: Nov. 15, 6th race, \$507.30; Dec. 4, 6th race, \$265.73. Good-luckjohnathan: Nov. 21, 1st race, \$256.56. Grace N Favor: Dec. 3, 8th race, \$201.59. Tap-pahannock: Nov. 7, 1st race, \$332.37; Dec. 4, 1st race, \$174.10. Whiskey and You: Nov. 12, 8th race, \$320.71; Dec. 19, 6th race, \$320.71): Friesan Fire Syndicate—\$2,379.07.

GOLDEN LAD (Air Token: Nov. 7, 8th race, \$1,661.84; Nov. 28, 4th race, \$2,748; Dec. 13, 4th race, \$1,187.03. All About Audrey: Dec. 6, 6th race, \$164.93; Dec. 20, 5th race, \$314.87. Bound for Broadway: Nov. 22, 1st race, \$1,281.99. Golden Moon Shine: Dec. 20, 6th race, \$314.87. Gold Finch: Nov. 13, 3rd race, \$366.52. Hello Beautiful: Nov. 28, 5th race, \$2,748. Margie's Heaven: Dec. 3, 3rd race, \$489.80. Oxide: Nov. 29, 8th race, \$1,661.84; Dec. 20, 8th race, \$1,994.20. Paisley Singing: Nov. 26, 1st race, \$402.34. Russeldoingthings: Nov. 12, 8th race, \$1,661.84. Wye Mumbo: Nov. 26, 3rd race, \$1,281.99): Golden Lad Syndicate—\$18,280.06.

GREAT NOTION (All Threes: Nov. 13, 7th race, \$577.27. Alwaysinahurry: Nov. 7, 5th race, \$1,994.20. Closetotheheart: Dec. 27, 1st race,

\$577.27. Conjecture: Nov. 8, 5th race, \$1,424.43; Dec. 3, 6th race, \$412.34. Fille d'Esprit: Nov. 6, 7th race, \$1,661.84; Nov. 21, 7th race, \$1,994.20; Dec. 18, 8th race, \$2,136.65. Had the Notion: Nov. 29, 3rd race, \$1,044.58. Halfinthewrapper: Dec. 11, 9th race, \$1,092.06. Italian Dressing: Dec. 10, 3rd race, \$384.85. Karan's Notion: Nov. 19, 5th race, \$1,994.20; Dec. 19, 8th race, \$787.19. Le Weekend: Dec. 19, 2nd race, \$274.89. Lewisfield: Nov. 13, 6th race, \$2,231.61. Rapid Response: Nov. 29, 5th race, \$302.38. Sing a Verse: Nov. 15, 2nd race, \$712.22. N Stickingtogether: Nov. 5, 4th race, \$612.26. Zen Pi: Nov. 19, 7th race, \$1,566.87; Dec. 10, 9th race, \$489.80; Dec. 31, 4th race, \$489.80): Great Notion Syndicate—\$22,760.91.

HANGOVER KID (Pay the Kid: Dec. 10, 7th race, \$854.66): Hangover Kid Syndicate.

IMAGINING (Double Fireball: Dec. 4, 2nd race, \$402.34. Hinting: Dec. 27, 5th race, \$164.93. Imagine Victory: Dec. 12, 9th race, \$1,281.99. Market Mover: Nov. 26, 7th race, \$320.71): Imagining Syndicate—\$2,169.97.

LOUIS QUATORZE (Wowwhatabrat: Dec. 11, 2nd race, \$314.87): Louis Quatorze Syndicate.

MOSLER (Aloysius Luck: Dec. 10, 1st race, \$302.38; Dec. 31, 2nd race, \$302.38. Hello Hot Rod: Nov. 13, 7th race, \$1,566.87; Dec. 13, 7th race, \$1,994.20. Moonsale: Nov. 28, 2nd race, \$302.38; Dec. 27, 1st race, \$302.38. Mosler's Image: Dec. 19, 7th race, \$247.40. Natty Beau: Nov. 12, 2nd race, \$1,044.58. Steady Eddie: Dec. 10, 1st race, \$577.27. Wicked Prankster: Dec. 18, 2nd race, \$1,566.87): Country Life Farm, Adele Dilschneider and Seth Hancock—\$8,206.71.

NICANOR (Miss Old Bay: Dec. 20, 5th race, \$854.66. Seany P: Nov. 27, 8th race, \$274.89): Nicanor Syndicate—\$1,129.55.

NOT FOR LOVE (Hot N Spicy Love: Dec. 6, 7th race, \$262.40. No More Talk: Nov. 13, 4th race, \$367.35): Not For Love Syndicate—\$629.75.

ORIENTATE (Dashing Lou: Nov. 8, 6th race, \$712.22; Dec. 12, 8th race, \$314.87. No Fooling Dude: Nov. 7, 3rd race, \$1,044.58. Prince Pere: Nov. 19, 7th race, \$302.38): Orientate Syndicate—\$2,374.05.

OUTFLANKER (Crouchelli: Dec. 3, 4th race, \$384.85): Outflanker Syndicate.

PETIONVILLE (Petion Lass: Nov. 14, 6th race, \$262.40; Dec. 10, 2nd race, \$262.40; Dec. 26, 9th race, \$262.40): Everest Stables Inc.—\$787.20.

PLAN (Polished Gal: Nov. 22, 6th race, \$712.22. Yesterdaysplan: Nov. 1, 1st race, \$854.66; Nov. 19, 2nd race, \$997.10; Nov. 29, 1st race, \$1,187.03): Stronach Group LP—\$3,751.01.

REDEEMED (Gottaway: Dec. 3, 1st race, \$262.40; Dec. 19, 4th race, \$262.40). Redeem Eddie: Nov. 29, 8th race, \$612.26; Dec. 19, 6th race, \$612.26. Wolfinbarger: Dec. 18, 5th race, \$262.40): Redeemed Syndicate—\$2,011.72.

ROCK SLIDE (Seven On the Rocks: Nov. 12, 3rd race, \$1,376.95): Shamrock Farms.

SEVILLE (GER) (Brightwood: Nov. 13, 9th race, \$314.87. Favor Maker: Dec. 10, 7th race, \$164.93. I Love You: Nov. 19, 2nd race, \$367.35; Dec. 12, 3rd race, \$367.35. Sevilla Sangria: Nov. 12, 6th race, \$1,044.58. Solea: Nov. 20, 9th race, \$164.93; Dec. 20, 5th race, \$164.93. Tyreek: Nov. 14, 9th race, \$201.59): Seville Syndicate—\$2,790.53.

STREET MAGICIAN (Isabella's Magic: Dec. 5, 9th race, \$137.45. Street Lute: Nov. 14, 7th race, \$2,748; Dec. 5, 7th race, \$2,748; Dec. 26, 2nd race, \$2,748): R. Larry Johnson—\$8,381.45.

SUPER NINETY NINE (Be Bop a Lola: Nov. 29, 3rd race, \$384.85. Forfiftyfiverocket: Nov. 14, 4th race, \$402.34. Hemp: Dec. 18, 2nd race, \$302.38. Little Miss Raelyn: Dec. 3, 6th race, \$2,136.65. Nine Martinis: Dec. 12, 3rd race, \$192.42. Ortolina: Nov. 8, 2nd race, \$174.10; Dec. 13, 8th race, \$402.34): Country Life Farm and Spenthrit—\$3,995.08.

TRITAP (Miss Philly Dilly: Nov. 12, 6th race, \$384.85; Dec. 12, 9th race, \$247.40. Rapidash-queen: Dec. 18, 3rd race, \$137.45): Tritap Syndicate—\$769.70.

Maryland-bred top earners in 2021

(through March 2)

1. Knicks Go \$3,240,000	11. Aloha West \$49,200
2. Street Lute 120,000	12. Royal Number 46,122
3. Tattooed 95,000	13. Deep Red 45,630
4. Pete's Play Call 85,000	14. Gale 45,000
5. Hello Beautiful 67,500	15. Conjecture 44,460
6. Proper Attire 62,244	16. McElmore Avenue 43,407
7. Excellerator 61,372	17. The Wolfman 42,588
8. Hello Hot Rod 55,000	18. Rubber Band 40,755
9. Plot the Dots 52,065	19. Chargina 39,849
10. Paisley Singing 50,370	20. Alwaysmining 39,827

Maryland Horse Breeders Association Business Member Spotlight

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Designated Hitters strives to be a leading breeder and elite racing organization based in Maryland. With over a million dollars in earnings and some of the top prospects in the pipeline, the team is poised to grow significantly over the next few years.



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- News, views and insights that matter to breeders, owners and racing industry professionals - April 2021 -

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Horologist honored as New Jersey-bred Horse of the Year

There's A Chance Stable, Medallion Racing, Abbonanza Racing LLC, Parkland Thoroughbreds, Paradise Farms Corp. and David Staudacher's Horologist has been named 2020 New Jersey-bred Horse of the Year and champion older female by the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association of New Jersey.

Horologist started her championship campaign in California with trainer Richard Baltas and was ultimately transferred to the care of Hall of Fame trainer Bill Mott in June. Under Mott's supervision Horologist won the \$250,000 Molly Pitcher Stakes-G3 at Monmouth Park and the \$150,000 Beldame Stakes-G2 at Belmont Park. Horologist also finished second in the \$100,000 Nellie Morse Stakes at Laurel and third in the \$500,000 La Troienne Stakes-G1 at Churchill Downs.

The daughter of Gemologist out of Cinderella Time, by Stephen Got Even, finished 2020 with \$345,334 in earnings. She has won seven of 20 career starts with earnings of \$715,439. Horologist was bred in New Jersey by Holly Crest Farm.



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ADAM COGLIANESE



Pickin' Time honored as Champion 2-Year-Old

Pickin' Time gave breeder/owner John Bowers Jr. and trainer Kelly Breen their second 2020 champion as he took home the honor of champion 2-year-old. Pickin' Time had a successful campaign winning three races at distances ranging from 4½ furlongs to 1 mile. The son of Stay Thirsty out of Born to Royalty, by King of Kings (Ire), broke his maiden in his first start at Monmouth Park going 4½ furlongs July 4. Pickin' Time finished second in the \$100,000 Sapling Stakes at 1 mile before cutting back to 6 furlongs and winning the \$75,000 Smoke Glacken Stakes at Monmouth Park.

The champion 2-year-old saved the best race of his campaign in the \$100,000 Nashua Stakes-G3, winning the 1 mile event over the Aqueduct oval by 2½ lengths. Pickin' Time finished his 2-year-old season with earnings of \$193,025.



Pianzi takes home Champion 3-Year-Old

Hope Haskell Jones and Isabelle de Tomaso's homebred Pianzi is the champion 3-year-old after three consecutive wins from July 17 to Aug. 30. The son of Shanghai Bobby out of Faker, by Petionville, broke his maiden in his second start at Monmouth July 17 by 4¾ lengths. Trained by Cal Lynch, Pianzi came back Aug. 8 and won his NW1X condition and his NW2X condition Aug. 30. Pianzi finished 2020 with earnings of \$132,815.

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Bramble Bay named Champion Turf Runner

Ballybrit Stables LLC's homebred Bramble Bay is the champion turf runner after her three-win season. Bramble Bay won over the Gulfstream Park turf course in May prior to shipping to Monmouth Park and winning the \$75,000 Jersey Girl Handicap at 1 mile on the turf. The daughter of Bullet Train (GB) out of Regal Rose, by Empire Maker, is trained by Michael Dini. Bramble Bay earned \$119,830 during her championship campaign and has career earnings of \$196,988.



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Royal Urn named Champion Sprinter & Champion Older Male

John Bowers Jr.'s homebred Royal Urn was named champion sprinter and champion older male after his successful campaign that finished with three stakes wins. The son of Kantharos out of the King of Kings (Ire) mare Born to Royalty won the \$75,000 John J. Reilly Handicap and \$75,000 New Jersey Breeders Handicap at 6 furlongs by a combined 6 lengths. Royal Urn showed his versatility and stretched out to 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles in the \$100,000 Charles J. Hesse III Handicap for his third stakes win of 2020. Royal Urn finished his championship campaign with \$172,250 in earnings under the care of trainer Kelly Breen.



EQUUS-PICTO INC.

Hey Chub repeats as Stallion of the Year

Hey Chub is the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association of New Jersey's Stallion of the Year for the fifth time in his career. The 21-year-old son of Carson City out of Donna Doo, by Spend a Buck, was a multiple stakes-winning New Jersey-bred who hit the board in 30 of his 36 starts and earned \$441,755.

Hey Chub has sired stakes winners Chublicious (\$653,393), winner of the 2017 Frank J. De Francis Memorial Dash Stakes, 2018 New Jersey-bred champion sprinter Brother Chub (\$542,336) along with stakes-placed Chubbiana (\$119,872).

Born to Royalty named Broodmare of the Year

Born to Royalty was honored as Broodmare of the Year in 2020. John Bowers Jr. bred and owns the 19-year-old mare by King of Kings (Ire) out of Teenage Queen. Teenage Queen, also owned by Bowers, was named New Jersey's Broodmare of the Year in 2007. Born to Royalty is the dam of Royal Urn, 2020 champion sprinter and champion older male, and Pickin' Time who is the champion 2-year-old of 2020.

Born to Royalty has produced nine named foals of which all have started and seven are winners. Her latest foal is a yearling New Jersey-bred colt by Tonalist.

Monmouth Park 2021 Stakes Schedule

Race Date	Race Name	Age/Sex	Distance	Surface	Closing Date
5/28	\$100,000 Jersey Derby	3YO	One Mile	Turf	5/14
5/29	\$100,000 Mr. Prospector Stakes	3+	Six Furlongs		5/14
5/30	\$75,000 Politely Stake	F&M 3+	Five Furlongs	Turf	5/14
5/31	\$75,000 Spruce Fir Handicap (NJB)	F&M 3+	Six Furlongs		5/14
6/5	\$150,000 G3 Monmouth Stakes	3+	One Mile and One Eighth	Turf	5/21
6/6	\$100,000 Lady's Secret Stakes	F&M 3+	One Mile and One Sixteenth		5/21



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Monmouth Park 2021 Stakes Schedule *continued*

<i>Race Date</i>	<i>Race Name</i>	<i>Age/Sex</i>	<i>Distance</i>	<i>Surface</i>	<i>Closing Date</i>
6/12	\$150,000 G3 Salvator Mile	3+	One Mile		5/28
6/13	\$150,000 TVG.com Pegasus Stakes	3YO	One Mile and One Sixteenth		5/28
6/19	\$75,000 Get Serious Stakes	3+	Five Furlongs	Turf	6/4
6/20	\$150,000 G3 Eatontown Stakes	F&M 3+	One Mile and One Sixteenth	Turf	6/4
6/26	\$75,000 Boiling Springs Stakes	3YO Fillies	One Mile and One Sixteenth	Turf	6/11
6/27	\$75,000 Smart N Classy Handicap (NJB)	F&M 3+	One Mile		6/11
7/3	\$75,000 Regret Stakes	F&M 3+	Six Furlongs		6/18
7/4	\$75,000 John J. Reilly Handicap (NJB)	3+	Six Furlongs		6/18
7/10	\$75,000 Blue Sparkler Stakes	3YO Fillies	Five and a Half Furlongs	Turf	6/25
7/11	\$75,000 My Frenchman Stakes	3YO	Half and a Half Furlongs	Turf	6/25
7/17	\$1,000,000 G1 TVG.com Haskell Stakes	3YO	One Mile and One Eighth		6/25
7/17	\$500,000 G1 United Nations Stakes	3+	One Mile and Three Eighths	Turf	6/25
7/17	\$300,000 G3 Monmouth Cup	3+	One Mile and One Eighth		7/2
7/17	\$250,000 G3 Molly Pitcher Stakes	F&M 3+	One Mile and One Sixteenth		7/2
7/17	\$150,000 G3 WinStar Matchmaker Stakes	3+/F&M	One Mile and One Eighth	Turf	7/2
7/17	\$75,000 Wolf Hill Stakes	3+	Five and One Half Furlongs	Turf	7/2
7/18	\$75,000 Jersey Girl Handicap (NJB)	F&M 3+	One Mile	Turf	7/2
7/24	\$75,000 Irish War Cry Handicap (NJB)	3+	One Mile	Turf	7/9
7/25	\$75,000 Tale of the Cat Stakes	3YO	One Mile and One Sixteenth	Turf	7/9
7/31	\$200,000 G3 Monmouth Oaks	3YO Fillies	One Mile and One Sixteenth		7/16
8/1	\$75,000 Colleen Stakes	2YO Fillies	Five Furlongs	Turf	7/16
8/7	\$75,000 Tyro Stakes	2YO	Five Furlongs	Turf	7/23
8/8	\$100,000 Oceanport Centennial Stakes	3+	One Mile and One Sixteenth	Turf	7/23
8/14	\$75,000 Incredible Revenge Stakes	F&M 3+	Five and One Half Furlongs	Turf	7/30
8/15	\$75,000 Jersey Shore Stakes	3YO	Six Furlongs		7/30
8/21	\$200,000 G3 Philip H. Iselin Stakes	3+	One Mile and One Sixteenth		8/6
8/22	\$75,000 Rainbow Heir Stakes	3+	Five and One Half Furlongs	Turf	8/6
8/28	\$100,000 Miss Liberty Stakes	F&M 3+	One Mile and One Sixteenth	Turf	8/13
8/29	\$100,000 Charless Hesse III Handicap (NJB)	3+	One Mile and One Sixteenth		8/13
8/29	\$100,000 New Jersey Breeders' Handicap (NJB)	3+	Six Furlongs		8/13
8/29	\$100,000 Eleven North Handicap (NJB)	F&M 3+	Six Furlongs		8/13
9/4	\$100,000 Red Bank Stakes	3+	One Mile	Turf	8/20
9/5	\$100,000 Sapling Stakes	2YO	One Mile		8/20
9/6	\$100,000 Sorority Stakes	2YO Fillies	One Mile		8/20
9/11	\$75,000 Rumson Stakes	3+	Five Furlongs		8/27
9/12	\$75,000 Precious Passion Stakes	3+	One Mile and One Half	Turf	8/27
9/18	\$75,000 Pinot Grigio Handicap (NJB)	F&M 3+	Five Furlongs	Turf	9/3
9/19	\$75,000 Joey P. Handicap (NJB)	3+	Five Furlongs	Turf	9/3
9/25	\$100,000 Violet Stakes	F&M 3+	One Mile and One Sixteenth	Turf	9/10
9/26	\$75,000 Smoke Glacken Stakes	2YO	Six Furlongs		9/10



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North Carolina



THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

April 2021

President's message

Hello members. Thank you all who renewed your memberships for 2021. Because of you, the NCTA exists for another year.

Also, my appreciation for those who heeded my plea for photos and information to share in this newsletter. Sometimes it is difficult to fill two pages with racing news. So, thank you Bob, Dan and Caroline for your contributions and allowing me to share your news in this publication.

/Rebecca Montaldo

North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

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Racing News



Free Me

Please join me in welcoming a new but not unfamiliar name to our organization, Jim Hardin Jr., the son of founding member Jim Hardin. Jim Hardin Jr. is partnered with Bob Sanford in the 3-year-old filly Free Me (MD) by Golden Lad out of Probational Dancer, by Woodman. She was bred by Jim Sr. The filly is in training with Ann Merryman, and she will soon have her first start. We are grateful to have Mr. Hardin's support and look forward to reporting on this filly.



Shea D Capture

Dan Shea with Shea D Boys Stables purchased a yearling colt at last year's OBS October sale, now named Shea D Capture (FL). The chestnut colt by Uncaptured out of Shocking Dunn, by Wheaton, went into training at Palm Meadows in March.

Another member, Caroline Cooper—Check Racing Stables, graciously re-

ported a new buy through a private purchase. The Ohio-bred 2-year-old colt by Speightster out of Southern Silence, by Dixie Union was recently named Condemnation. The breeders, Blazing Meadows Farm LLC and WinStar Farm, retained portions of the colt and are partners in his ownership with Caroline. The bay colt is in training in Florida.



Condemnation

Racing Recaps

PJ's Ego (Freud—Prime Jewel, by The Prime Minister) took first at Charles Town Feb. 20 for breeder and owner Ken Orchard of Jet 'M Stables. The 5-year-old mare broke third but led by a head at the quarter pole. She widened her lead by a length down the stretch. By the sixteen pole she cleared her foes to win by 3 lengths running 4½ furlongs in :52.60.

Dannyhill (Mshawish—Maggie Maggie, by Majesticperfection) broke her maiden in just her third start at Tampa Bay Feb. 21 for breeder Nancy Shuford. The 3-year-old filly broke first out of the gate. She continued and battled for the lead by a slim margin throughout the race to win by three-quarters of a length in the 6-furlong race run in 1:11.87.

NCTA 2020 Awards

Category	Horse	Connection
Champion Partnership Horse	Kid Mercury (Lemon Drop Kid – Queenie’s Song by Unbridled Song)	Owned by Caroline Cooper In Partnership
Champion Two-Year Old	Dirty Dangle (Not This Time – Chambray by Alphabet Soup)	Bred by Nancy Shuford
Champion Claiming Male	Ice Cap (Carpe Diem – One Foxy Grey by Big Brown)	Bred by Nancy Shuford
Champion Claiming Female	All Fact (The Factor – Navy Chapel by Chapel Royal)	Bred by Nancy Shuford
Champion Allowance Male	Shooters Shoot (Competitive Edge – Repeat by Bernardini)	Bred by Nancy Shuford
Champion Allowance Female	Royal Wedding (Court Vision -All My Lovin’ by Cat’s Career)	Owned by William Thompson
Champion Stakes Horse	Dirty Dangle (Not This Time – Chambray by Alphabet Soup)	Bred by Nancy Shuford
Champion Graded Stakes Horse	Texas Wedge (Colonel John – Callmenancy by Political Force)	Bred by Nancy Shuford
Broodmare of the Year	Callmenancy	Owned by Nancy Shuford
Breeder of the Year	Nancy Shuford	

Hitting the Board January 25–February 24

Date	Horse	Track	NCTA Connection	Result
4-Feb	Sag Harbor	Turfway Park	Bred by Nancy Shuford	3rd
12-Feb	Flat Out Flying	Laurel Park	Bred by Beth Muirhead & Frank Coniglio	2nd
20-Feb	PJ's Ego	Charles Town	Bred & owned by Ken Orchard - Jet M Stables	WINNER!
19-Feb	Double Tough Tiger	Fair Grounds	Bred by Beth Muirhead	3rd
21-Feb	Dannyhill	Tampa Bay Downs	Bred by Nancy Shuford	WINNER!

NORTH CAROLINA THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

YOUR NAME OR FARM NAME _____

HORSES IN TRAINING - 2021

Please list the horses you have BRED or OWN that are in training or racing. The Association will put them into our stable on Daily Racing Form. We will keep up with them thru this medium and have news for the association and for the Mid-Atlantic. We will only use horses that finish in the money.

I hope this will allows us to know what our members are doing on the racing front and keep everyone informed about your successes.

The breeding I will still have to trust you to keep us informed. I love receiving news on how the horses are doing and who you are breeding to, and how you did at the sales. I do know it is hard to find the time to sit down and send me this information, BUT PLEASE TRY.

Please take the time to fill this out for your racing stock. Please list all horses even the ones I already have so I can keep our stable updated. Use another page if need more room.

HORSE'S NAME _____ DAM _____ DOB _____ ☐ Bred ☐ Own ☐ Both

HORSE'S NAME _____ DAM _____ DOB _____ ☐ ☐ ☐

HORSE'S NAME _____ DAM _____ DOB _____ ☐ ☐ ☐

HORSE'S NAME _____ DAM _____ DOB _____ ☐ ☐ ☐

HORSE'S NAME _____ DAM _____ DOB _____ ☐ ☐ ☐

Mail to: Rebecca Montaldo
NCTA
P O Box 76
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North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

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Thank you for your support.

PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:**
Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:**
Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:**
Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:**
Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

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Peace and Justice— a sire on the rise

by Emily Shields

There is only one son of the great War Front standing in Pennsylvania for 2021, and that is Peace and Justice. A lightning-quick young runner who cost \$425,000 as a yearling, Peace and Justice is now a \$3,500 stallion at Blackstone Farm in Pine Grove.

His journey from the auction ring to current stud farm took place over nearly a decade, but his strong pedigree always suggested he would succeed. Peace and Justice's second dam Sky Darter was a four-time stakes-placed winner by Storm Bird who hails from the female family of leading sire Be My Guest and champion 3-year-old filly What a Treat. Sky Darter's winning Smart Strike daughter Strike the Sky, who was never worse than third in her career, produced seven foals; all seven won, including Peace and Justice.

Before Peace and Justice came Hudson Steele, who won seven of 15 starts. Among his victories were the Grade 2 Dixie Stakes, a \$300,000 event at Pimlico, and the \$150,000 Jersey Derby. Lauren Byrd came one year later; the daughter of Arch was stakes-placed at Keeneland and produced group winner Hakam, Grade 1-placed My Man Sam and stakes-placed Oiseau de Guerre as her first three foals. Peace and Justice followed.

"He was a gorgeous yearling," bloodstock agent David Ingordo said of the purchase from the Claiborne Farm consignment at the Keeneland September sale. He bid on behalf of Justice Family Racing. "From the first day we put tack on him at Mayberry Farm, we always felt he was special."

Peace and Justice did not debut until June of his sophomore year, when he went to the post



at Belmont Park favored against older horses over a mile on the grass. After training as a juvenile in California, Peace and Justice moved with trainer John Shirreffs' string to New York. Despite Shirreffs not being known for unveiling horses ready to run on debut, Peace and Justice soared, scoring by 2 lengths on the front end.

Peace and Justice raced twice more in 2013, but failed to hit the board. He returned to California for a 1-mile allowance on the grass, his first start at 4, and won by 5¼ lengths in 1:33.27. The effort was so impressive that he was named a Thoroughbred Daily News Rising Star.

Blessed with undeniable natural speed, Peace and Justice went to the gate almost six weeks later and ran his rivals off their feet. Under jockey Brice Blanc, Peace and Justice was leading by 10 lengths at the midpoint of the race, despite bobbling at the start. He held on to win in 1:32.36, which was just three-fifths of a second off Horse of the Year Wise Dan's course record at Santa Anita of 1:31.78.

Peace and Justice retired in 2015 with a record of three wins and a second from eight starts for earnings of \$137,448. He was acquired by Steve Young, who originally had him standing at Northview PA in Peach Bottom before that farm closed last fall. That necessitated the relocation to Blackstone Farm.

Both Young and farm owner Christian Black genuinely believe in Peace and Justice, a striking dark bay who, "stands over a lot of

ground," according to Young. "He's got all the aspects you want in a stallion. He is a 16.2-hand high War Front, with great balance, that was highly thought of as a yearling. He's been a good-looking horse his whole life, and he was a very fast horse going a mile."

Young could have chosen anywhere to go with Peace and Justice when Northview closed, but he opted to stay in Pennsylvania. The reason is simple: Young truly believes Peace and Justice will sire runners on all three surfaces, which the Pennsylvania racetracks can provide.

Young pointed to the stallion's 15 black-type workouts in his career, all of which took place over the dirt or synthetic. Peace and Justice was even able to blaze a bullet over the Belmont Park training track, a notoriously deep surface. "He shaded a minute there, which means he can fly," Young said.

"He was very fast, and could carry his speed," Black said. "He's pretty leggy for a War Front son. From what I have seen, he stamps his foals very well. They come out with a good hip and a good shoulder. They are nice, correct foals, that all look just like him."

From his first crop to race – they are now 3-year-olds – Peace and Justice has sired runners with average earnings of \$19,865. He had just 23 foals of racing age last year, but among them was stakes winner Like a Saltshaker, who took the 2020 Fitz Dixon Jr. Memorial Juvenile at Presque Isle Downs. That

runner was also stakes-placed on the grass at Belmont Park.

Black said that Peace and Justice has a good, adaptable mind, and does well on the farm. "We have a walker that we do our sales prep on, and the stallions go on that three times a week at least, just to keep them in shape," he said. "Then, weather permitting, he goes out to his paddock."

Black will be sending between 12 and 15 of his own mares to Peace and Justice, while Young will support him as well. "We do believe he has a future as one of the leading stallions, not only in Pennsylvania, but the whole Mid-Atlantic," Black said.

Young has an additional reason to be fond of Peace and Justice: he trained his dam, Strike the Sky. "She was also a very good horse," Young said. "Five of the six horses that finished ahead of her won stakes races."

The team behind Peace and Justice took the time to develop a website for their young stud, peaceandjusticepa.com. There, visitors can learn more about the horse's pedigree, race record, and progeny.

Young concluded, "I think if you take a versatile-bred horse like him, and put him in a state where there are year-round racetracks with all three surfaces, and factor in the purses, it was pretty black-and-white that he should be kept in Pennsylvania."

A few words from the Executive Secretary

I would first like to thank the many legislators that have given us their total support since the Governor's budget proposal. They have said they will stand behind us and not allow this to happen. Please keep in contact with your Senators and Representatives as we are winning this fight.

Don't miss out on the best breeding program in the country. If you haven't sent your mares, don't delay. A maiden breeder award for PA-Sired PA-Breds is a whopping 50%, and

40% for all other races. Non PA-Sired awards are 25% and 20% respectively.

Plans for our annual awards banquet honoring the champions of 2020 are underway. This year's celebration will again be held via Zoom, hopefully for the last time. We are looking to have our annual meeting at the Kennett Square Country Club so look out for invitations to both.

PA foals of 2021 have started to arrive! Send us your foal photos with lineage, foaling date and location to be included in the 2021

Foal Gallery on the website and be featured on our Facebook and Twitter accounts. Email photos and information to pabreeder@gmail.com.

As always, if you have any questions about our program or if you're interested in joining the Thoroughbred breeding industry in Pennsylvania, please call our office at 610.444.1050.

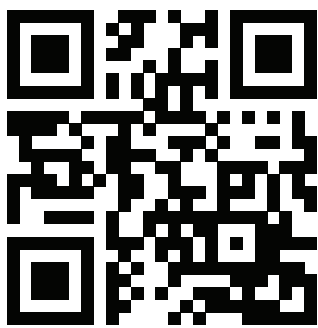


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PA-Bred Fund Statistics: Top Earners

January 1 through December 31, 2020

LEADING EARNERS - TOTAL AWARDS

Breeder Name	Breeder	Stallion	Total	Breeder Name	Breeder	Stallion	Total
Northview Stallion Station Inc.	0	306,970	306,970	Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC	66,707	14,813	81,521
Glenn E. Brok LLC	149,268	76,869	226,137	Flint W. Stites	61,728	12,262	73,990
William J. Solomon VMD	120,310	83,841	204,151	Mary R. Szezyler	73,513	0	73,513
Blackstone Farm LLC	171,522	0	171,522	Richard N. Miller	57,584	11,642	69,226
Fantasy Lane Stable Inc.	116,804	39,031	155,835	Cavanaugh Breen Farm LLC	65,135	0	65,135
Pewter Stable	112,071	22,650	134,720	Ashwell Stables Inc.	62,499	0	62,499
Sylmar Farm Inc.	131,816	0	131,816	Wendy H. Mutnick	61,250	0	61,250
Patricia L. Chapman	81,080	32,033	113,113	Shirley A. Lojeski	60,222	0	60,222
Arrowwood Farm Inc.	108,227	0	108,227	Godstone Farm LP	32,389	25,209	57,598
Thomas G. McClay	106,711	0	106,711	Barlar LLC	48,222	9,024	57,247
Wyn Oaks Farm LLC	59,783	45,713	105,495	Yaroslav Kolybabiuk MD	56,254	0	56,254
Donald L. Brown Jr.	74,439	15,525	89,963	W M T Stables Inc.	55,481	0	55,481

LEADING STALLIONS

Fund Money includes Stallion Awards only

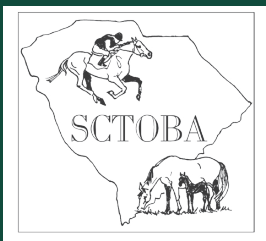
Stallion Name	Stallion Owner / Manager	No. of Races	Award Total	Stallion Name	Stallion Owner / Manager	No. of Races	Award Total
Jump Start	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	523	172,796	Partner's Hero	Peter Giangiulio	64	17,288
El Padrino	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	207	86,779	Uncle Lino	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	25	16,894
Talent Search	Glenn E. Brok LLC	157	58,521	Messner	Donald L. Brown Jr.	17	15,525
Uptowncharlybrown	Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC	114	53,844	Rimrod	George Strawbridge Jr.	44	14,683
Weigelia	Wyn Oaks Farm LLC	190	45,713	Emperor Tiberius	Richard N. Miller	39	13,334
Albert the Great	William J. Solomon VMD	128	33,350	Peace and Justice	Steven W. Young Racing LLC	17	13,241
Smarty Jones	Patricia L. Chapman	137	32,033	Reflect Times	Flint W. Stites	32	12,262
Well Spelled	Godstone Farm LP	89	22,941	Petionville	Everest Stables Inc.	36	10,585
Winchill	Pewter Stable	35	20,578	Il Villano	Chuck Russo	29	9,846
Mad Flatter	Glenn E. Brok LLC	84	20,027	Last Gunfighter	William J. Solomon VMD	41	9,597
Any Given Saturday	William J. Solomon VMD	86	19,755	Wiseman's Ferry	Lainey Bug Stables LLC	15	9,302
Medallist	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	40	17,802	E Dubai	Barlar LLC	34	8,704

LEADING HORSES

Fund Money includes: PA-Bred Races, Breeder and Stallion Awards and PA-Bred Owner-Bonus Payments

Horse	Pedigree	Breeder	Races	Restricted	Stakes	Breeder Award	Stallion Award	Owner Bonus	Total
Wait for It *	Uptowncharlybrown - Kimberley Diamond	Fantasy Lane Stable Inc.	4	0	91,200	67,664	16,916	15,760	191,540
Its a Journey *	Jump Start - Lovely Seniorita	Mary R. Szezyler	3	0	44,400	41,240	10,310	13,600	109,550
Fire's Finale *	Jump Start - Exchanging Fire	Kenwood Racing LLC	2	0	43,800	38,700	8,835	9,600	100,935
Final Shot *	Talent Search - Last Shot	Wendy H. Mutnick	8	0	7,900	48,700	12,175	18,764	87,539
Pink Caddy *	El Padrino - Avani Force	Vicky Schowe	2	0	46,800	31,800	7,950	0	86,550
Caravel	Mizzen Mast - Zeezee Zoomzoom	Elizabeth M. Merryman	4	0	47,400	27,150	0	3,252	77,802
Midtowncharlybrown *	Uptowncharlybrown - Torchwood	Godric LLC	2	0	47,400	23,700	5,925	0	77,025
Admiral Abe	Midshipman - Precious Penny	James Walker	10	0	7,400	26,806	0	35,272	69,478
Plane Drunk	Stay Thirsty - Annette's Jet	Triple Threat Stables LLC	2	0	47,400	16,980	0	0	64,380
Dreamer's Moon	Alternation - Dream Realized	Blackstone Farm LLC	8	0	0	28,986	0	34,380	63,366
Madam Meena	Include - Good Tidings	Michael R. Cox	11	0	8,690	31,700	0	22,760	63,150
Isabella Smile *	El Padrino - Smilestone	Joseph Besecker	9	0	0	29,915	7,479	21,368	58,762
Promised Storm *	El Padrino - Innovative	Cavanaugh Breen Farm LLC	6	0	0	36,432	9,108	11,280	56,820
Koan	Zensational - Tease	Eq. Biomechanics & Ex. Phys. Inc.	8	0	0	22,747	0	32,496	55,243
Brilliant Chase	Golden Lad - Fix You	Matthew T. Groff	9	0	0	28,571	0	25,020	53,591
The Critical Way	Tizway - Critical Factor	Blackstone Farm LLC	1	0	44,400	8,880	0	0	53,280
Geebert *	Albert the Great - Gee Pari	Richard Molineaux	8	0	0	28,336	6,580	16,800	51,716
Wise Jude *	Wiseman's Ferry - Sweet as You Are	A & J Racing Stable LLC	6	0	0	29,288	7,322	14,720	51,330
Love On Fire	Friesan Fire - Love Has Foundaway	Thomas Finacchio	11	0	0	20,558	0	29,368	49,926
Cinnabunny	Golden Lad - English Mum	Shooting Star Stable	5	0	0	26,768	0	22,640	49,408
Ruby Bleu *	Messner - Ruby Soul	Donald L. Brown Jr.	7	0	0	24,741	6,185	17,672	48,598
Late Breaking News *	Jump Start - Very Distinctive	Stacy McMullin Machiz	7	0	0	28,450	7,113	12,076	47,639
Irish Cork	Flat Out - Circustown Rose	Two-Turn Farm LLC	7	0	0	22,039	0	25,484	47,523
Mess'n Around *	Messner - She Is a Lioness	Donald L. Brown Jr.	2	0	0	23,856	5,964	17,040	46,860

*Denotes PA-sired



South Carolina

Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2021

Racing Across the Nation

Between Jan. 20 and Feb. 21, South Carolina was represented by three stakes winners who went through the breaking process at our training centers and farms.

On Jan. 23, Getridofwhatailesu trailed the field early by over 11 lengths in the Pippen Stakes at Oaklawn Park. Actually, she was in front of the favorite who did not want to come out of the gate and had no intention of racing. Getridofwhatailesu still trailed after three-quarters of the 1 mile race. While advancing through traffic approaching the stretch, she was able to move to the outside and flew home, hitting the wire 1½ lengths in front. Getridofwhatailesu learned her early lessons from Donna Freyer at her Custom Care Equine operation in Camden. In seven career starts, this filly has four wins and two second place finishes, earning \$259,197.

Hollis, who was developed at the McCutchen Training Center in Kingstree, finished in an exciting dead-heat for the win in the Stonerside Sprint Stakes at Sam Houston Race Park Jan. 31. Hollis contested a fast pace and was able to shake loose in the stretch until challenged approaching the finish line and battled to achieve a dead-heat at the wire. Hollis has won seven races during his career.

On Feb. 6, South Carolina graduates finished first and second in the Tampa Bay Stakes-G3 as Get Smokin proved best over Eons by three-quarters of a length. Get Smokin, also a product of Donna Freyer's Custom Care Equine program, stalked the leader for the opening 6 furlongs. He took control entering the stretch, opened up by 3 lengths, and coasted home. Eons, who

continued next page

Legislative Bill making progress

Our Bill for the formation of a legislative subcommittee to study the impact and future growth of the equine industry in South Carolina and eventually the introduction of

Advanced Deposit Wagering and possibly historical racing machines is moving forward. The Bill passed a second reading in February and will now move into the Senate.

Celebration of Black History Month

In celebration of Black History Month in February, the Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame museum had an exhibit featuring James Smiley, a black jockey born in Aiken in 1918. He quit school while in the sixth grade to help support his family following the death of his father. Smiley travelled to Hempstead, N.Y., in 1935 to become a

steeplechase jockey. He was the regular rider for Oedipus, who was named 1950, 1951 and 1952 American Champion Steeplechase Horse.

Lillian Bostwick Phipps owned Oedipus and Neji, both members of the National Racing Hall of Fame. They were trained in Aiken by her brother, Pete Bostwick.

From the Desk of. . .

. . . SCTOBA member Virginia "Gigi" Lazenby reports an Irish-bred steeplechaser, Razoul, has been recently purchased and imported to the United States. He will be trained by SCTOBA member Kate Dalton and will point for major stakes races this summer. Razoul is owned by Del Rio Chasers.

. . . Congratulations to Mopo Racing and Dale Capuano, the owner and trainer of Dixie Drawl. Dixie Drawl was bred in South Carolina by Franklin "Goree" Smith and is a stakes-placed son of Smith's stallion, Done Talking. Dixie Drawl was named South Carolina's 2020 Older Male Horse of the Year.



Walter Downey's filly by Hoppertunity out of Paging Mr. Hughes says: "Everybody says I'm pretty, just like my Mom."



This filly by Exaggerator out of Absolute Bearing joined the Lee Christian stable in February.

Racing Across the Nation *continued*

spends his time in Aiken with Brad Stauffer and Ron Stevens when he is

getting a break from the track, was 10th early, had 8¾ lengths to make up with

a half-mile to go and worked his way through traffic to be second best.

SOUTH CAROLINA-TRAINED WINNERS

Horse	Training Center	Date	Track	Type of Race
Tiergan	Elloree Training Center	2/21/21	Aqueduct	Starter Allowance
Market Alert	Custom Care - D. Freyer	2/21/21	Aqueduct	Allowance
Hemp	Webb Carroll Training Center	2/20/21	Laurel Park	Maiden Special Weight
Johnny Sack	Webb Carroll Training Center	2/20/21	Laurel Park	Maiden Special Weight
Judge Bern	Kirkwood Stables	2/20/21	Aqueduct	Maiden Special Weight
Irish Cork	Rentz Farm	2/16/21	Parx Racing	Allowance
Bustin Timberlake	Webb Carroll Training Center	2/15/21	Aqueduct	Allowance
Yankee Division	Wes Carter	2/13/21	Laurel Park	Allowance
Reggae Music Man	Aiken - Legacy Stable/Mason Springs	2/13/21	Aqueduct	Maiden Special Weight
Vanquisher	Webb Carroll Training Center	2/12/21	Laurel Park	Waiver Maiden Claiming
Unequivocal	Elloree Training Center	2/11/21	Charles Town	Starter Allowance
Beren	Rentz Farm	2/10/21	Parx Racing	Maiden Special Weight
Dream Shake	Aiken - Cary Frommer	2/7/21	Laurel Park	Maiden Special Weight
Oxide	Aiken - Cary Frommer	2/7/21	Laurel Park	Allowance
GET SMOKIN	Custom Care - D. Freyer	2/6/21	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay S-G3
Dublinornothin	Webb Carroll Training Center	2/6/21	Aqueduct	Allowance
Take Me Home	Custom Care - D. Freyer	2/5/21	Charles Town	Allowance
The Poser	Elloree Training Center	2/5/21	Laurel Park	Allowance
Mount Athos	Custom Care - D. Freyer	2/4/21	Fair Grounds	Maiden Special Weight
Bye Bye Bertie	Elloree Training Center	2/3/21	Fair Grounds	Allowance
Bess	Elloree Training Center	2/3/21	Penn National	Starter Allowance
She's A Dime	Aiken - Cary Frommer	1/31/21	Santa Anita	Allowance
HOLLIS	McCutchen Training Center	1/31/21	Sam Houston	Stonerside Sprint S
Order for Porky	Custom Care - D. Freyer	1/29/21	Laurel Park	Allowance
Zanesville	Webb Carroll Training Center	1/29/21	Fair Grounds	Allowance
Queen of the Land	Webb Carroll Training Center	1/29/21	Penn National	Maiden Special Weight
Unbridled Adventure	Custom Care - D. Freyer	1/26/21	Parx Racing	Allowance
Ziggy Mon	Wes Carter	1/24/21	Laurel Park	Allowance
GETRIDOFWHATAILSEU	Custom Care - D. Freyer	1/23/21	Oaklawn Park	Pippen S
Dixie Drawl	Elloree Training Center	1/23/21	Laurel Park	Allowance
Olympic Romp	Elloree Training Center	1/22/21	Tampa Bay	Allowance
Poncho Song	Webb Carroll Training Center	1/22/21	Aqueduct	Allowance
Coltonator	Elloree Tng Ctr	1/21/21	Fair Grounds	Allowance



VIRGINIA



Grade 3 Virginia Derby Headlines 24 Stakes Slated for Colonial Downs Summer Meet

A total of 24 stakes races worth a combined \$2.675 million will be contested at the upcoming seven-week thoroughbred racing season at Colonial Downs, headlined by the Grade 3, \$250,000 Virginia Derby. The meet in New Kent will run from July 19 - September 1 with racing every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Virginia Derby Day is scheduled for Tuesday August 31, and in addition to the 18th annual renewal that features some of the country's top 3-year-old turf horses, four other grass stakes will be on the card --- the \$150,000 Virginia Oaks, \$150,000 Old Nelson, \$100,000 Rosie's Stakes and \$100,000 Kitten's Joy.

Besides those five, another six open stakes will be programmed, most at the \$100,000 level. The Chesapeake and Andy Guest Stakes are slated for Monday August 23 while the Victory Gallop, Da Hoss and Seeking the Pearl are scheduled for July 26 in addition to the \$150,000 Buckland.

Twelve stakes worth a combined \$1.2 million featuring Virginia-bred, certified or sired horses will be carded as well.

Six \$100,000 black-type stakes for Virginia-bred or Virginia-sired horses will take place, including five on closing day's card. The Jamestown, Camptown, Brookmeade, Edward P. Evans and Punch Line will highlight the September 1 finale. A sixth, the Nellie Mae Cox Stakes, is part of opening day's card and will complement a trio of Virginia-restricted stakes.

An additional series of non black-type Virginia-restricted stakes, also at the \$100,000 purse level, are open to Virginia-bred, Virginia-sired AND

Virginia-certified horses. In all, six are scheduled throughout the campaign. The Bert Allen, Meadow Stable and M. Tyson Gilpin highlight the kickoff card while another pair, the Hickory Tree and Keswick Stables sprint stakes, are on August 2. The Van Clief is a week later on August 9 and will co-headline with the \$75,000 Randolph Rouse Steeplechase Stakes that day.

"We are excited once again to be able to run our six Virginia-bred/sired black-type stakes at Colonial Downs," said Debbie Easter, Virginia Thoroughbred Association Executive Director. "With a \$100,000 purse for each race, we ought to attract the best Virginia-bred horses in training. The addition of six new \$100,000 Virginia Restricted stakes is a huge new benefit for our Virginia certified owners."

Twenty-one of the stakes will be contested over Colonial's renowned Secretariat Turf Course, which is the widest grass racing surface in the country. At 180 feet across, the massive oval is divided in half to create an inner turf course and an outer turf course. Colonial's dirt oval, which will play host to the other three stakes, is the second largest in the country at 1 1/4 miles around. Only Belmont's 1 1/2 miles oval is bigger.

Purses at the upcoming meet will revert back to 2019 levels and average \$500,000 per day. The popular horsemen incentive bonus programs also return. Owners will receive a \$1,000 per starter bonus and trainers will receive a \$300 per start incentive. The barn area will open on July 5. Stall applications, a condition book, complete stakes schedule and more information is at colonialdowns.com and vabred.org.

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

21 of this year's 24 scheduled stakes will take place over Colonial's Secretariat Turf Course. Photo by Coady Photography.



Four 2018 Virginia Yearling Futurity Participants Share \$5,000 In Bonus Awards

Four Virginia-bred/certified horses that competed in the 2018 Yearling Futurity will share a \$5,000 bonus pool based on career earnings they accumulated through their recently completed 3-year-old racing campaigns. The top earners in bonus winning order were Patriotic Punch (\$3,000), Appraised (\$1,000), Lady Fox (\$700) and Beach Traffic (\$300).

Maryland-bred Patriotic Punch, bred by Charles Reed and Michael Zanella, bankrolled \$125,969 from 17 career starts through December 31. The Carpe Diem filly, out of Lori Z's Punch by Two Punch, reeled off three wins in a row during a five-week period at Laurel last year. She was best in a maiden claimer and a pair of starter optional claiming races between September 11-October 17. Overall, she has 10 "top three finishes". Patriotic Punch spent her Virginia residency at Karen Godsey's Eagle Point Farm in Ashland.

Virginia-bred Appraised also has recorded a trio of victories and ten "top three" finishes. The Shanghai Bobby gelding, bred and raised at Morgan's Ford Farm in Front Royal, collected his wins in a series of claimers at Delaware Park over a nine-week period last year. Out of the Include mare, Looking Great, he has earned \$70,067.

Lady Fox finished 2020 with \$56,540 in earnings --- third best from the '18 yearling class --- and has kicked off 2021 with back-to-back wins. The Imagining filly, bred by Lady Olivia at North Cliff, LLC., had four runner-up finishes and a trio of thirds through 2020, good for \$56,540. This year, she broke her maiden and prevailed in another claiming race, both at

Laurel. The Maryland-bred, out of Lady Olivia by Silver Deputy, spent her residency at David Dobson's Lady Olivia at North Cliff Farm in Rixeyville.

Beach Traffic, Reserve Grand Champion and winner of the Certified class at the '18 Futurity, has collected wins at both Gulfstream and Monmouth. The Maryland-bred gelding, by Cross Traffic, has bankrolled \$53,365 to date. Out of Pink Sand by Sky Mesa, Beach Traffic was bred by Patricia Ramey and Maciej Szwarc and raised at the Hunt Ridge Stables at Ramey's Blue Ridge Farm in Upperville. He has hit the board in half of his 16 starts.

Virginia Point-to-Point and NSA Steeplechase Meet Dates Set

The Virginia spring Point-to-Point season is in full swing and action continues through early May this year. The Warrenton Point-to-Point is on March 28, followed by the Old Dominion Hounds (April 3), Blue Ridge Hunt (April 11), Loudoun Hunt (April 18) and Middleburg Hunt (May 9). More details are at centralentryoffice.com.

A slate of NSA sanctioned meets also are set including the Middleburg Spring Races (May 1), Virginia Gold Cup Races (May 29), Foxfield Fall Races in Charlottesville (September 26), Virginia Fall Races (October 9 in Middleburg), the International Gold Cup Races (October 23) and the Montpelier Hunt Races (November 6).

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

Top Left -The annual Virginia Yearling Futurity is held at the Warrenton Horse Show Grounds.

Top Right - The Middleburg Spring races will be held at Glenwood Park May 1.

Virginia Thoroughbred Association

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West Virginia

THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

April 2021

A Higher Re-purposing

By Jeff Gilleas



Elizabeth Meehan competing aboard her OTTB Meehan Meehan. Emily Ballenger photo

"The future depends on what you do today." Gandhi

In all of my years spent on the third planet from the sun, I have come to accept one universal belief, regardless of religious affiliation, self-sacrifice is the reason why we are here and the fundamental key to unlocking our humanity.

When I heard of a local contingent of crusaders taking on the challenge of the Thoroughbred Makeover-Retired Racehorse Project, the largest retraining competition in the world, it became a moral imperative to communicate on their behalf.

In an era where acceptance of negativity is pervasive and

the faultfinding eyes of the world are fixated upon our sport, this occurrence captures the essence of boosting education, productive retraining and the continuing welfare of our equine partners.

Sponsored by the Thoroughbred Charities of America and held at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Ky., this event is open to recently retired ex-racehorses alongside those who love and protect their legacy.

Founded by a small group of dedicated individuals 10 years ago, this year over 800 applicants from assorted equine labors will vie for the top prize in building bridges to second careers.

Our powerful forecasters for modification and betterment of the industry are Katie Crews, Kelsie Figgins, Elizabeth Meehan and Allie Renzulli.

FEELING USEFUL IS THE GIFT WE GRANT ONE ANOTHER

Katie Crews' saga is patterned after a long line of female pioneers that have plied their trade at the Charles Town Races.

Similar to many of her counterparts Katie had a passion for horses at an early age and learned how to gallop while breaking babies in South Carolina.

"Once at the racetrack, I grew weary of watching the boys getting all the glory on my best-loved horses and in 2007 started my career as a jockey in Maryland. My favorite aspect of riding was trying to figure out what made each individual tick and deciphering their mind games. I retired in 2017 and went back to school to further my education. Upon witnessing my friend, Elizabeth Meehan and prestigious Rosie Napravnik involved with the RRP it lit a fire in me to also compete.

"The horse I am taking to the competition is Believe the Heat, who I lovingly refer to as Peter Pan. He has a mischievous personality, but is super amusing. I had scheduled to bring him last year, however as everyone knows the RRP was postponed due to Covid-19 concerns."

HER HEART SHINES BRIGHTEST FOR HER EQUINE ATHLETES

Kelsie Figgins was the fortunate recipient of being born into a large family, where horses and animals made every day an adventure. The daughter of multiple graded stakes-winning trainer Ollie Figgins III, Kelsie and her sisters literally grew up on the back of a horse. As a teenager she gained an increased appreciation for their four-legged friends and a mature mindset for the value of rehomng.

Kelsie and her sister Emilie recently started their own business enterprise titled: Figgins Off-Track Thoroughbreds. Since it's inception they are credited with re-purposing 13 individuals.

Kelsie and her sister know the intense demands of racetrack life, but hope to partake in this year's Retired Racehorse Project. Kelsie's entries are two West Virginia-breds named King of the Blues and I Need You.

The latter, a former weary claimer, deserved a break from racing and found a good home in the arms of a diminutive horse fancier.

THE ABILITY TO START OVER IS ONE OF OUR GREATEST GIFTS

Elizabeth Meehan was born and raised on a farm and being petite in size, but certainly not stature, followed in her mother's equestrian footprints.

She had her first pony by the age of 7 and purchased a racehorse off the track at 11 years old.

"Growing up as a member of the United States Pony Club, it seemed natural to teach horses a second career, namely jumping, fox hunting, eventing and showing. The fundamental disciplines of the Club were horsemanship and sportsmanship and at 16 I carried those principles with me to the racetrack. To this day, I continue to watch particular horses with a second career match in mind. In 2017, I attended my first

Thoroughbred Makeover with a gelding I owned, trained and bred. Meehan Meehan provided myself, my daughter and my sister so much joy that I am going back this year with a horse I received from Mr. Casey named Luft Songs."

IT IS NOT THE AMOUNT OF TIME WE LIVE, IT'S WHAT WE DO WITH IT

Allie Renzulli may be new to West Virginia, but not horses, as they have consumed her spirit since the age of 5.

"They were the only thing I would talk about as a child and my parents finally gave in and allowed me to take lessons. I've always had a special love for Thoroughbreds and have been fortunate to be in a position to provide them opportunities to transition into new careers. After college, I worked for Ballyclare Farm, where I gained an invaluable amount of knowledge caring for, riding and rehabbing a variety of Thoroughbreds off the racetrack. I eventually branched out on my own to create Renzulli Racehorse Restarts. Hopefully, I'll be participating in the TB Makeover hosted by the Retired Racehorse Project. Being able to showcase these magnificent animals in such a beautiful venue is remarkable. Thoroughbreds give so much during their racing life it is urgent to share a second career with them. Surrounded by a devoted community of horsemen and horsewomen makes this a dream."

Special thanks go to Elizabeth Meehan and Amanda Moro, as their exploits continue to inspire me.

They have discovered that real purpose is revealed through and enriched in the service of others.

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- The WV Thoroughbred Development Fund distributes almost \$5 million to breeders, owners, and sire owners of accredited WV-bred and/or -sired horses based the horse's annual earnings at Charles Town and Mountaineer Park racetracks.
- The West Virginia Breeders Classics pays out almost \$1 million in purses for WV-bred and/or -sired horses. It is held annually on the second Saturday in October.
- \$800,000 in purses are allocated for up to 16 WV accredited stakes races during the year.
- Supplemental Purse Awards of up to 10% of the winner's share of the purse to the owner, breeder, and/or sire owner of the accredited WV-bred and/or -sired winner.
- West Virginia offers year-round racing with approximately 300 race days per year.

West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association

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The McKnight stamp on Maryland's timber triple

Hunt Cup-winning duo were keeping with family tradition

By Betsy Burke Parker

The power relationship was born amid the chaos and hard-running world of Maryland's infamous big timber circuit, a linking of two of steeplechasing's royal families.

Turney and Liz McKnight remain the only married couple to win the Maryland Hunt Cup, America's most famous timber stake and among the world's most recognized jump races. They completed the rare double in an impossibly rare fashion: on the same horse – Tong, bred by Turney's mother June McKnight – in 1982 and '86.

As the 124th running of the historic race approaches April 24, they took time to reflect on the multi-generational build up to their respective Cup wins.

His story

H. Turney McKnight Jr. was born in New York City in 1943. He was raised in Great Falls, former farm country in what's now suburban Northern Virginia. His mother, June, kept her foxhunters at historic Sunnybank Farm in Middleburg with Dorothy Fred, this before Dot married steeplechase trainer Mike Smithwick.



H. Turney McKnight
© Douglas Lees

"My boyhood idol was of course (eventual Hall of Fame jockey, and Mike's brother) Paddy Smithwick," Turney recalls. "I'd go to the races with my mother – she had a pretty strong stable of horses with Mikey through the '50s and '60s, and that was the time there were a lot of very big, very good steeplechase operations. There were some real legends that came out of that era."

For his own racing career, Turney started small, naturally. He recalls his first race ride. "Dot Smithwick had a small pony, a really good one," Turney remembers, a show pony in the summer, foxhunter in the winter, race pony in the spring. He won a pony-sized turf dash at Glenwood Park, giving him the ardor for racing that's never left him.

Turney kept up with horses when he went to school, playing polo as an undergrad at Cornell. He graduated University of Michigan law school, moving to Maryland's Hunt Valley soon after.

When his parents divorced, Turney's mother sold the Great Falls farm. He gravitated to Monkton to align racing and hunting with his fledgling career, taking a job at a law firm with Maryland timber royalty Laddie Murray and Jervis Spencer Finney.

"I liked the firm, I liked the partners, and they liked me. I was getting up and galloping horses at Pimlico before work most days. I'd go to the Holiday Inn next door and the manager would let me take a shower in the rooms that hadn't been cleaned yet that morning.

"It was great, but it wasn't fair." He ended up opening his own practice, training horses at the farm they purchased, and expanded on, near Monkton. Turney was joint-master of the local Elkridge-Harford Hunt six seasons in the 1970s and '80s. He returned in 2015 and hunts three days a week these days.

Turney served as My Lady's Manor Race chair for 40 years, retiring in 2017.

Turney serves on the boards of the Atlantic Salmon Federation, Chesapeake Conservancy and as president of the Sumner T. McKnight Foundation. Last year, he released a book of sporting memoirs, "Tracks In The Sand," stories from his years as a foxhunter, race rider, angler, hunter and cattle farmer.

McKnight, Charlie Fenwick and Dixon Stroud are teaming up to design the new timber course at Fair Hill. Between them, they have seven Maryland Hunt Cup victories: Fenwick won five Hunt Cups and the 1980 English Grand National. McKnight won the 1980 Virginia Gold Cup and the 1982 Hunt Cup. Stroud rode Bewley's Hill to win the 1984 Hunt Cup.

Her story

Elizabeth Pearce McKnight carries on a racing dynasty: ancestors John Myers Pearce and Charles Morgan Pearce helping found the My Lady's Manor race starting in 1909. It ran over the family farm, Clifford, until it moved in 1978 to its present location at the Elkridge-Harford Hunt club.

Her father, David Pearce, was fourth in the 1950 Maryland Hunt Cup. He later became renowned as a farrier, specializing in problem feet and racetrack work. His most famous client was 1977 Triple Crown winner Seattle Slew, trained by one-time Mike Smithwick protégé Billy Turner. It was David Pearce who healed the asphalt-injured feet of two-time Hunt Cup winner Tong after he fell in the 1984 race and galloped all the way to the interstate on Tufton Avenue.

Liz's brother Ross Pearce is a Maryland and NSA steward. He was third in the 1977 and '78 Maryland Hunt Cup on Cary Jackson's Moon Meeting.

She says she pretty much "grew up at the racetrack," galloping horses at Pimlico and Delaware Park for Katy



Liz McKnight

©Neena Ewing Collection/Maryland Horse Library

Voss and Dickie Small and learning critical lessons in timing, strength and finesse.

"For me, if someone wants to learn to ride races, I encourage them to go gallop horses at the racetrack," Liz says. "You learn pace, you learn to ride at speed, you learn to sit on a horse."

She represented the Amateur Riders Club of America on the international Fegentri circuit, riding races in Russia, Norway and France plus at Laurel, Penn National and Delaware Park.

Liz followed Turney as Elkridge Harford joint-master 1994-2014, serving much of her 20 years with Tom Voss and Bob Kinsley. "I loved working with Tom," she says. "It's a total commitment."

"When I took on the job, I remember Turney was like, 'if you're going to do this, you can't do it half-ass.'"

"That's the sort of thing he'd say, you know. He was right."

Liz and Turney have two adult children – Anna and Phillip, and four grandkids. Turney has an older son, Matthew, with first wife Mimi Voss.

This year, Liz is co-chair of the Maryland Hunt Cup committee. It's their first year to run it, she notes, since last year's race was canceled due to the pandemic. "We're a little nervous, she admits, "but really excited. I think we'll be able to have spectators – some, and are really looking forward to it."

Nothing but McKnight:

Perhaps the most famous Vermont-bred thoroughbred ever foaled in the Green Mountain state, Tong was 100 percent a product of the McKnight clan. Bred by Turney's mother, June McKnight, Tong's paternal grandsire was My Babu, one of the stallions produced by John Hanes, June McKnight's father.

By the time Tong's sire, The Hammer, was put to June McKnight's mare Hi Karat, he was already renowned as producer of top show hunters and jumpers. The Hammer also fathered U.S. Equestrian Team show jumper Sympatico who set a puissance record at 7'4" and was a Pan Am Games silver medalist. The Hammer sired American Horse Shows Association 1972, '73 and '75 Horse of the Year War Dress, inducted into the National Show Hunter Hall of Fame in 2013.

Turney recalls that Tong was tabbed as a three-day eventer originally, as his mother was an early sponsor of the international eventing careers of sisters Bea and Beth Perkins, but the big youngster proved too tough for a sporthorse career. He came to Turney's Maryland farm to train for the 1979 spring 'chase season.



Turney McKnight and Tong (left) clear the third fence at the 1982 Maryland Hunt Cup with Appollinax (John Coles, up). ©Douglas Lees



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In Memoriam



ALVIN AKMAN

Former Maryland Racing Commission member Alvin Akman, who raced in numerous partnerships over the decades, campaigning the likes of millionaire Grade 1 winner King's Swan and Maryland-bred champions Greenspring Willy and Smart and Fancy, died in late December at age 89.

The Baltimore resident was president for 30 years of the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union Local 27, which represented many workers at the tracks, prior to being named to the commission in 2003. Following his retirement from the union in 1984, he was president of a marketing consulting firm representing medical benefit providers and pension investment advisors.

One of Maryland's most active owners for decades, Akman purchased his first race horse in 1971 and saw his biggest success on the track with King's Swan. Trained by Dickie Dutrow, King's Swan won a dozen stakes, topped by the 1986 Grade 1 Vosburgh, placed in 25 more stakes and earned \$1,924,845 over nine seasons.

Akman's racing partners included former Maryland Senate President and Lieutenant Governor Melvin Steinberg—one of their earliest good horses was 1975 stakes winner Strange Proposal. Akman was a member of the Park Avenue Racing Stable consisting of Stuart Grant, Richard Frisina and trainer Tony Dutrow, son of Dickie Dutrow, that campaigned Smart and Fancy, 2008 Maryland-bred champion older female.

Akman was named Outstanding Maryland Owner by the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association in 2001.

RICHARD W. DELP

Richard Wills Delp, who sent out the winners of more than 1,000 races from 1975 until his retirement in 2000, died Feb. 15. He was 90.

Born and raised at the family's Cool Spring Farm in Churchville, Md., Delp worked for his family business, Greer Transportation, before taking out his trainer's license more than a dozen years after his younger brother, Hall of Fame trainer Grover G. "Bud" Delp, launched his career. Early on the older Delp would oversee runners from his brother's stable and, after recording his first official wins in 1975, Richard Delp sent out his first stakes winner, Bold Road (formerly trained by his brother), in the 1979 J. Edgar Hoover Handicap at Pimlico.



Among the top runners Delp conditioned were two-time Maryland-bred champion and nine-time stakes winner Smart 'N Noble, winner of the 1995 Barbara Fritchie Handicap-G2; additional graded stakes winners Smart Alec, Count My Love and Naughty Jimmy; the durable multiple stakes winner Willard Scott and his daughter, the remarkable Weather Vane.

Weather Vane was the ultimate family horse. Bred by the trainer's son Bill, she was foaled at the family farm in Fork, Md., and raced for the partnership of Bill Delp, his wife Sherri, brother Gary and father-in-law Pete Dillon in the name of Par Four Graded Stable. Risked for a claiming tag at 2, Weather Vane won eight stakes at 3 and six more at 4, the year she was named Maryland-bred champion older mare. She earned \$724,532 for the Delps while winning 17 of 36 starts.

BILL OWENS

Retired trainer and longtime Maryland Jockey Club stall manager Bill Owens died March 7 at age 90.



Owens saddled his first winner, home-bred Welcome Folly, in 1966 at Charles Town. When he was sidelined by a back injury a few years later his wife Josephine "Jo" Owens took over the stable, and kept training when Bill started working in the receiving barn at the Maryland tracks to avoid any conflicts of interest.

Among the best runners for the Owenses was Take the Vow, a 14-time winner who went on to produce eight winners from eight foals, including stakes-placed Take the Queen for the couple. The Owenses had owned and operated Monhoprin Farm (named for its proximity to Montgomery, Howard and Prince Georges Counties), a 15-acre farm Jo had inherited from her father, H.B. Shipley, until selling it and retiring from the business in 2002. The couple had been married for nearly 66 years.

LAURA THIEL SHULL

Former steeplechase owner Laura Thiel Shull, a fixture among the horse industry in Camden, S.C., died Feb. 18. She was 56.

Shull served on numerous boards in the steeplechase industry including the National Steeplechase Association, Steeplechase Owners and Trainers Association and the Carolina Cup Racing Association.

Shull's parents Dale and Judy Thiel were longtime Camden equine participants—she with the Camden Hunt and other entities, he as the executive director of the Carolina Cup and Colonial Cup meets.

As an owner, Shull campaigned steeplechase stakes winner Timely Encounter among others.

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THE MARYLAND HORSE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
MARYLAND HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION



Vol. 11, No. 4



APRIL 1946

75 years ago

■ Racing in Maryland returned to a degree of normalcy after track shutdowns during World War II. But racing writer Don Reed noted: “It would be ostrich-like, indeed, to say that racing resumes full scale in Maryland on the same basis which this sort of operation ended back in 1942. Too much has happened in that period to warrant ever referring to the sport ‘as the

same.’ During the wartime period and the era just following it, Maryland’s sport has both prospered and been condemned.”

Among changes to commence at the tracks in an effort to “clean house” was the creation of the Office of Protection to go after “rule evaders,” augmenting police forces on site, adding a mobile laboratory for quick testing of saliva, and using film patrol to check on the actual running of every race.

The state’s four major tracks would also adopt the use of the receiving barn, although Bowie’s wouldn’t be complete until the fall. The barns were being built “for the protection of those horsemen who wish to avail themselves of it.”

■ The first post-war Pimlico Yearling Show, sponsored by the Maryland Horse Breeders Association and held on the track’s Club House Lawn, was offering classes for Maryland-bred yearlings sired by out-of-state stallions in an effort to encourage participation.

■ The travels of *The Maryland Horse* editor Humphrey Finney included many Maryland farm visits, which he chronicled in greater detail than his “Saddle-Bag” would permit.

Looking Back

Among his stops was Cleveland Skinker’s Flamingo Farm in Cooksville; Wayne Johnson’s Churn Creek, one of the state’s largest farms located near Chestertown; and Samuel D. Riddle’s Glen Riddle Farm in Berlin, not far from Ocean City.

“We drove down to have a look at War Kilt, winner of the Demoiselle and other stakes in Glen Riddle’s yellow and black last year, and also Walter M. Jeffords’ Belmont Stakes winner Pavot,” wrote Finney. “I had no idea of seeing Mr. Riddle at the farm, but was enjoyably surprised to find the sprightly octogenarian down on a visit from his Pennsylvania home and feeling in the best of form.”

■ The majority of Maryland-bred winners in February were from Sagamore Farm. The most newsworthy of the 11—six by Discovery—was Knockdown, winner of two races including the Santa Anita Derby.

Another of the Discovery winners that month was the 3-year-old filly Geisha, getting her only win in 11 starts. She more than made up for her modest racing career by producing Native Dancer four years later.

50 years ago

■ Famed Chesapeake City, Md., breeder Allaire duPont decided, reluctantly, to liquidate part of her foal crop, and set up a three-year agreement with Virginian L. Clay Camp, who would pay cash for half of that year’s weanlings, prep them at his Glenmore Farm near Keswick, and sell at Saratoga the following summer.

“Usually we wind up with about 14 to 16 Saratoga-class weanlings,” said Camp, noting that “we are interested in only her best horses.”

A horseman his entire life, Camp was born in South Carolina but his family lived for generations in Virginia. He and his wife Barbara purchased 1,000-acre Glenmore in 1958, stood three stallions (Bronze Babu, Gun Shot and High Finance) and had 65 stalls on the property. “It was in 1958 that Barbara and I decided we’d get into the sales business,” recalled one of the country’s most successful pinhookers.

■ Maryland-bred Tuscalee established an all-time American steeplechasing



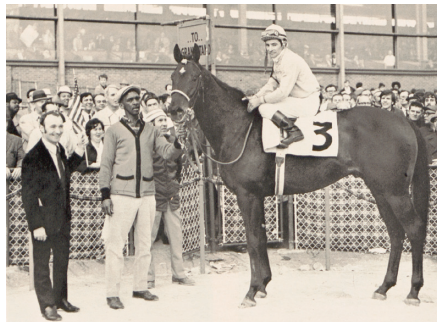
Tuscalee, with Joe Aitcheson aboard, wins at Deep Run. Below, Hoist the Flag after Bowie win in 1971.

record when getting his 32nd win at the Deep Run hunt meeting in Richmond, Va. Alfred H. Smith’s homebred, trained by J. Leiter Aitcheson and ridden by the trainer’s son, Joe Aitcheson, broke the record of another Maryland-bred, ElkrIDGE, who won 31 races from 1941 through 1951.

Tuscalee extended his record to 39 before he retired in 1972. Champion steeplechaser of 1966, he joined ElkrIDGE and Joe Aitcheson in racing’s Hall of Fame in 2013.

■ In his first start of 1971, champion 2-year-old Hoist the Flag romped by 15 lengths in an allowance at Bowie.

The early Triple Crown favorite, owned by Mrs. Stephen Clark Jr. and trained by Sidney Watters Jr., ran the fastest 7 furlongs ever by a 3-year-old in New York in the Bay Shore Stakes next out. The son of Tom Rolfe, who never finished behind a horse in his six starts (he was disqualified once), shattered a hind leg in a training accident that spring and was saved for stud duty. He became a major sire standing at Claiborne Farm in Kentucky.

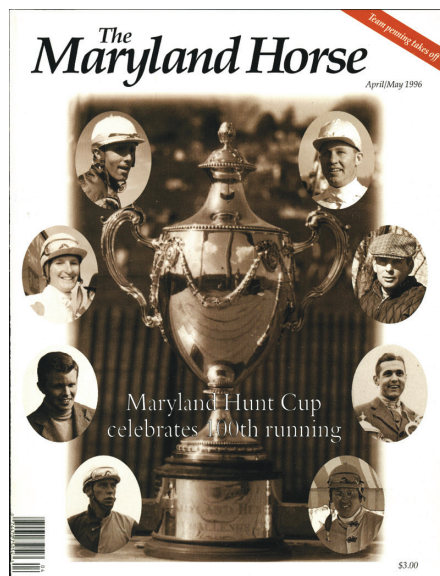


25 years ago

■ In celebration of the Maryland Hunt Cup's 100th running, the steeplechase community reflected on the world's greatest race over timber fences and its legendary winners. Wrote Peter Winants: "... tradition, leadership, consistency and courage are still integral characteristics of the great race."

D.M. "Mikey" Smithwick, the winner of six Hunt Cups in 12 rides from 1946 to 1960 and considered more closely linked to the Hunt Cup than anyone else, said if they were allowed one race a year, everyone would pick the Hunt Cup. "You get it in your blood," Smithwick said. "The race is still lots of fun to me. There's nothing like horses running and jumping big fences."

■ Racing historian Edward L. Bowen reflected on Pimlico's oldest stakes race, the Dixie Handicap, originally known as the Dinner Party Stakes and first run in 1870. During a dinner party in



Saratoga hosted by Milton H. Sanford in 1868, Maryland Governor Oden Bowie proclaimed his state could host a race of significance and would see to it that a track be built. It led to the Maryland Jockey Club negotiating to lease a tract of land outside of Baltimore, known as "Pemblico," to serve as the host site of the race, with Bowie offering a purse of \$15,000.

"The Dinner Party Stakes was the feature of [Pimlico's] opening day, and Sanford and Gov. Bowie both had horses in the 2-mile event. The winner was Sanford's Lexington colt Preakness, who was making his first start."

When a Pimlico spring meet was added in 1873, the opening feature was named after the first Dinner Party winner, and a classic was born.

The Dinner Party Stakes was called the Reunion Stakes in its second running, and renamed the Dixie Handicap in its third. Over the years it moved to the turf, distances changed and it was opened to older horses for the first time in 1924.

Last year, the name of the Grade 2 stakes was changed back to the Dinner Party. It will be run for the 120th time this year.

■ Virginia's first off-track betting site opened in February in the town of Chesapeake and was considered an instant success as the facility handled \$3.7 million in its first five weeks of operation.

10 years ago

■ After buying her first horse 10 years earlier, Ellen Charles turned to savvy auction buys to stock her increasingly successful Hillwood Stable. Among her 2010 purchases was a \$380,000 2-year-old daughter of Quiet American named Buffgirl, the second highest-priced filly at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May sale.

"She looks at every horse I look at," said Charles' trainer Rodney Jenkins. "She walks me to death. I look for the benches; she keeps going."

A client of Jenkins for six years, and also a client of David and JoAnn Hayden's Dark Hollow Farm, Charles campaigned two stakes winners in 2010, the Tapit colt Bandbox and Not For Love's daughter Love's Reason, and had opened 2011 with six wins from 11 starts after winning 21 races in 2010.

Charles' high profile 2010 runners have since added to the stable's success. In addition to Bandbox retiring as a sire, Buffgirl—who never won in five starts—is the dam of Maryland-bred champion Laddie Liam and recent winner Dream Big Dreams (by Bandbox). Love's



The first foal for former Maryland stallion Elusive Charlie was this colt out of Cut a Check (by Polish Numbers)—future two-time Maryland Million Classic winner Admirals War Chest.

Reason is the dam of Maryland-bred champion and graded stakes winner Majestic Reason.

■ Ready to open for its fifth season, Presque Isle Downs in Erie, Pa., operated in splendid isolation with the casino and racing program going strong. But change was on the horizon, as a new casino was on the drawing boards in Cleveland, Ohio, and slot machines were under consideration at Ohio racetracks. Penn National Gaming, developing casinos in Columbus and Toledo, also wanted to move Toledo's Standardbred track to the Youngstown area, just 100

miles southwest of Erie, which would be another source of potential competition.

■ Pennsylvania-bred Anthony's Cross was making a name for himself in California as the 3-year-old son of Indian Charlie prevailed in the \$250,000 Robert B. Lewis Stakes-G2 at Santa Anita, a prep for the Grade 1 Santa Anita Derby.

Breeder George Strawbridge Jr., who sold an occasional yearling at Saratoga through Derry Meeting Farm, noted: "We have discovered that in order to do well, you have to bring the proper individual. He was our best yearling [in 2009]—a magnificent horse." Arienne de Kwiatkowski (daughter of the late Calumet Farm owner Henryk de Kwiatkowski) made the purchase for \$300,000.

Anthony's Cross descended from a highly accomplished female family dating back more than 35 years with Strawbridge and his Augustin Stable, to his homebred T. V. Ad, the dam of six stakes performers. The colt was the second foal, and second graded stakes winner, from the Unbridled mare Screening, a daughter of graded stakes winner Recording, whose dam was graded stakes winner Ratings.



Field of Dreams. Five runners navigate an early fence in the 1922 Maryland Hunt Cup. The group included (from left) V.V. (John Bosley Jr.), Rumor (Janon Fisher Jr.), Whisper Belle (Daniel Brewster), The Comet (Francis Johnson) and Fox Hill (Albert Ober Jr.). Also the winner in 1920, Oracle II (not pictured) prevailed with Raymond Belmont aboard.

This photo is the oldest in the Maryland Horse Breeders Association's collection, which also includes the work of Skip Ball, Neena Ewing, Peter Winants and others. The historic photography, along with a trove of other important documents, publications and memorabilia, will be part of the new Maryland Horse Library and Education Center—which launched a capital campaign in March. For more, see marylandhorse.com/library

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